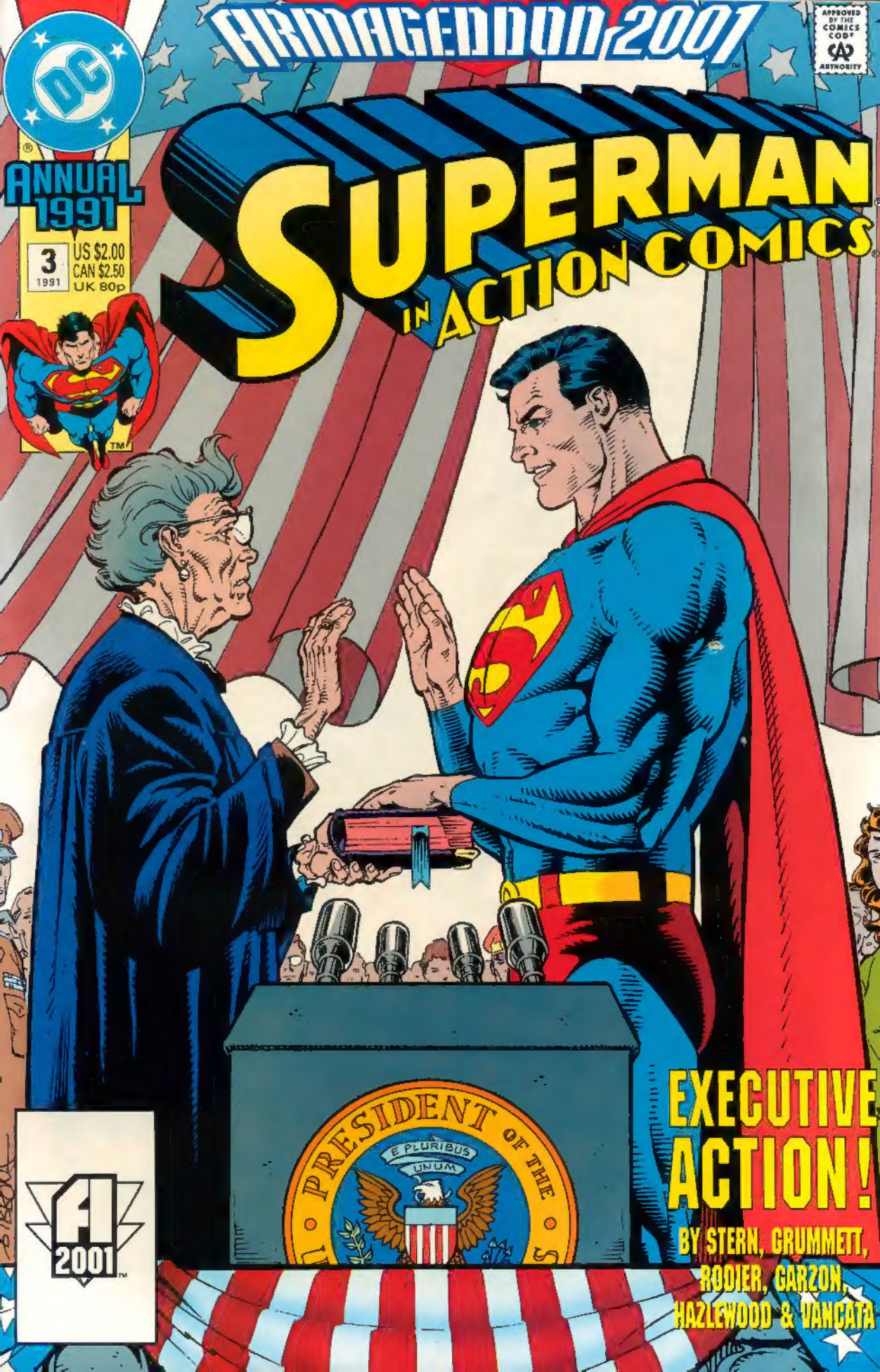




ARMAGEDDON 2001

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

ANNUAL 1991

3

1991

US \$2.00
CAN \$2.50
UK 80p



SUPERMAN

IN ACTION COMICS

EXECUTIVE ACTION!

BY STERN, GRUMMETT,
ROOIER, GARZON,
HAZLEWOOD & VANCATA

41
2001

SUPERMAN

CARLSBAD CAVERNS,
NEW MEXICO. ONE
MILE UNDERGROUND...

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

SO! I
THOUGHT I HEARD
SOMETHING SKITTER-
ING AROUND DOWN
HERE!

IT IS THE ONE
HUMANS CALL
SUPERMAN!

WE CAN
SEE WHO IT
IS, FOOL!
KILL HIM!

ACTION COMICS ANNUAL 3. Published annually and Copyright © 1991 DC Comics Inc., 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. Advertising Representative: Print Advertising Representatives, 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017 (212) 949-6850. Printed in U.S.A. DC Comics Inc. A Warner Bros. Inc. Company

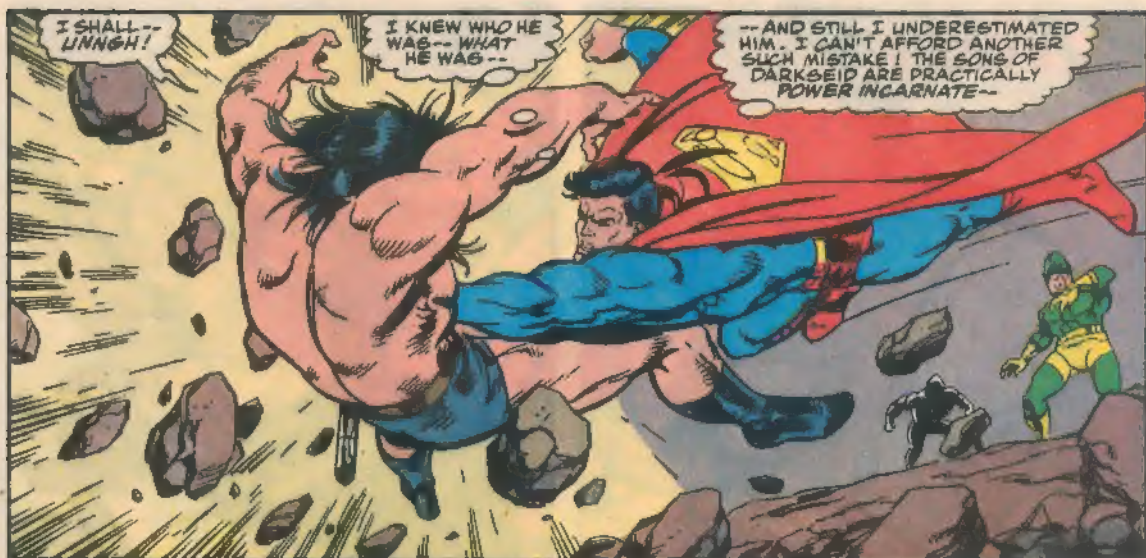
8-6758

DC COMICS INC.

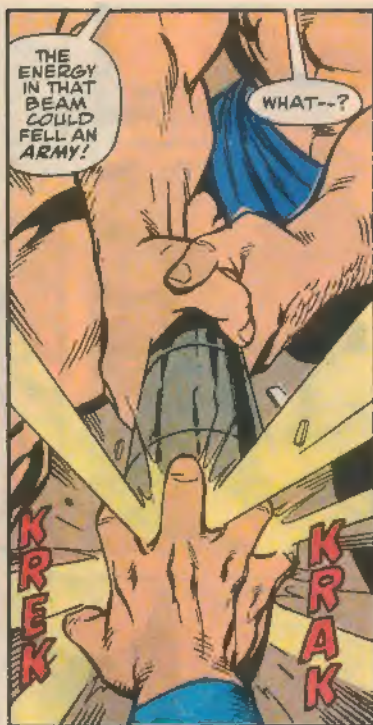
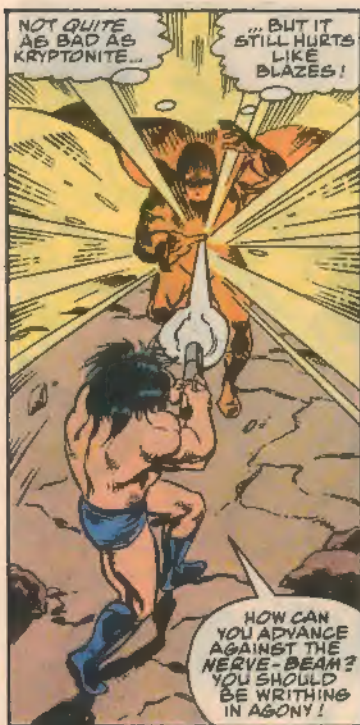
JENETTE KAHN, President & Editor-in-Chief • DICK GIORDANO, VP-Editorial Director • JIM CHADWICK, Director-Design Services
• JOE ORLANDO, VP-Creative Director • PAUL LEVITZ, Executive Vice President & Publisher • TOM BALLOU, Advertising Director • BRUCE BRISTOW, VP-Sales & Marketing
• PATRICK CALDON, VP & Controller • TERRY CUNNINGHAM, Director-Editorial Administration • CHANTAL d'AULNIS, VP-Business Affairs
• ULLIAN LASERSON, VP Legal Affairs • MATTHEW RAGONE, Circulation Director • BOB ROZAKIS, Production Director

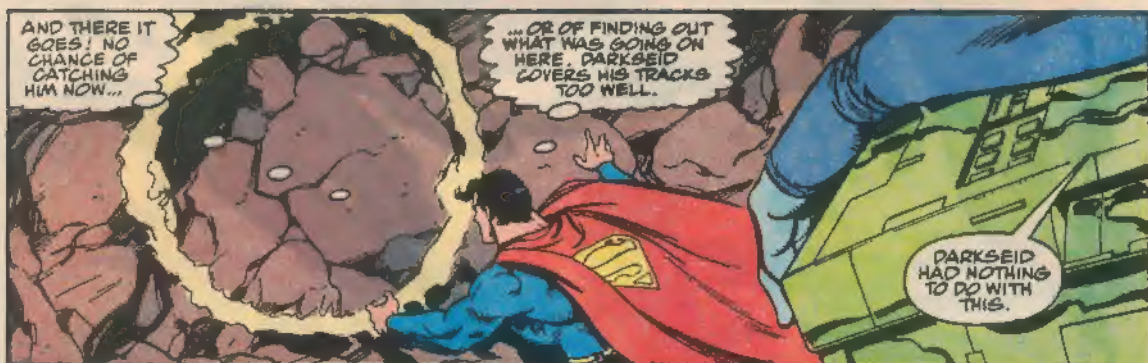
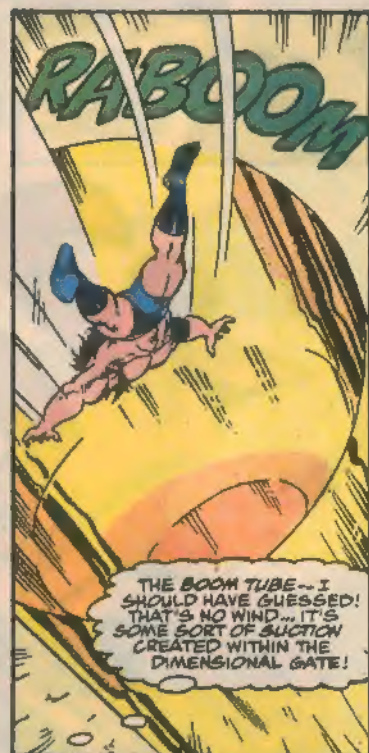














METRON?! THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU--YOU WERE COMATOSE!*

CORRECT. I WAS MANY OF YOUR MONTHS IN RECOVERING FROM MY CONTACT WITH ANTI-LIFE-- BUT RECOVER I DID.

YOU... READ MY MIND?

ONE NEED NOT BE TELEPATHIC TO GUESS YOUR THOUGHTS IN THIS MATTER, SUPERMAN.

* IN OUR COSMIC ODYSSEY PRESTIGE SERIES.



I DO SYMPATHIZE WITH YOUR DESIRE TO KNOW. SHALL I ENLIGHTEN YOU?

PLEASE!

KNOW THEN THAT THE LORD OF APOKALIPS RECENTLY TERMINATED KALIBAK--*

* IN NEW GODS#12.



--AND PLACED THE REMAINS IN THAT POD TO BEGIN THE RESURRECTION PROCESS.

DARKSEID IS CAPABLE OF RETURNING THE DEAD TO LIFE?!

THE DEAD OF OUR RACE... UNDER THE PROPER CIRCUMSTANCES... YES.

AT ANY RATE, SOME UNDERLINGS OF KALIBAK'S STOLE THE POD AND BROUGHT IT HERE IN HOPES OF RAISING A LEADER TO DEPOSE DARKSEID.



NOT WISHING TO SEE THE EARTH INVOLVED IN SUCH A MOVEMENT, I PLANTED IMAGES IN YOUR MIND WHICH LED YOU TO THE DISCOVERY OF THIS PLACE.

OH, YOU DID, DID YOU?

YES. AND YOU ACCOUNTED FOR YOURSELF QUITE WELL.

YOU "NEW GODS" THINK YOU HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS, DON'T YOU?



NOT AT ALL. THE QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE IS ETERNAL.

FAREWELL, SUPERMAN... UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.

HE HAS BEEN MANIPULATED...

...AND HE DOES NOT LIKE IT ONE BIT. IN THAT, HE IS LIKE ALL THE OTHER BILLIONS WHO INHABIT THIS WORLD.

NOT SURPRISING...

...HE WAS RAISED BY NATIVES OF THIS EARTH. HE HAS LIVED AMONG THEM ALL HIS LIFE.

HE NEVER CEASES TO FASCINATE ME, THIS SUPERMAN!

HIS GENETIC HERITAGE MAY BE THAT OF THE PLANET KRYPTON, BUT HIS HEART AND SOUL ARE AS MUCH OF THE EARTH AS WERE MY OWN!

I KNOW.

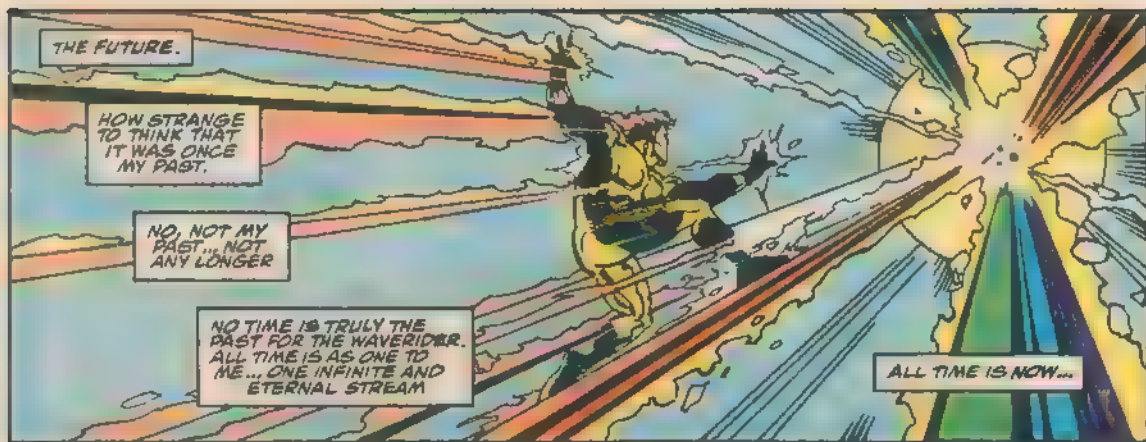
I HAVE SEEN HIS LIFE UNFOLD... PAST, PRESENT, AND EVEN FUTURE.

EVERYTHING IN HIS EXPERIENCE IS AS AN OPEN BOOK TO ME.

SUCH IS MY POWER.

THE POWER OF WAVERIDER.

I PRAY THAT IT IS POWER ENOUGH TO SAVE THE FUTURE.



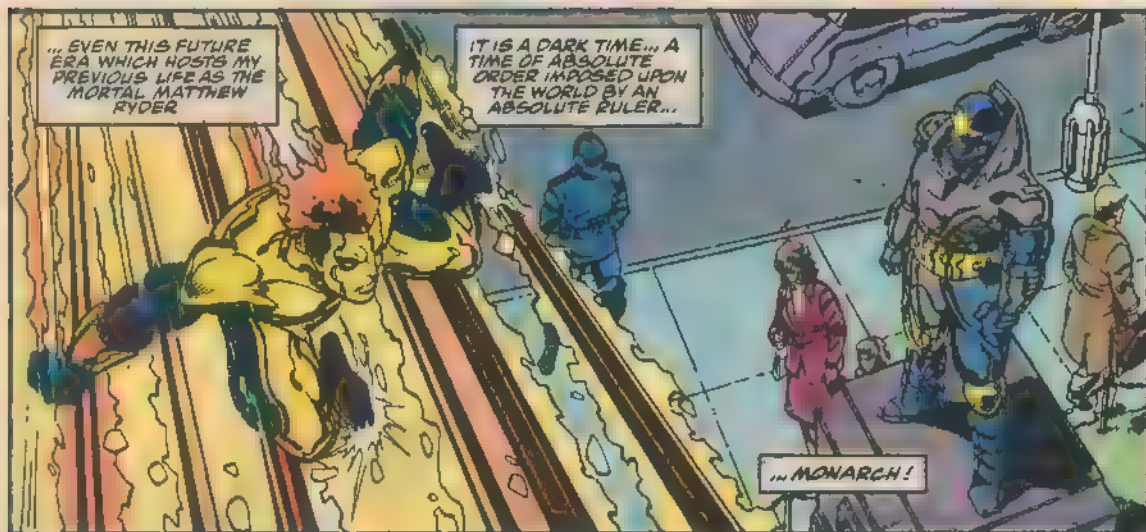
THE FUTURE.

HOW STRANGE
TO THINK THAT
IT WAS ONCE
MY PAST.

NO, NOT MY
PAST... NOT
ANY LONGER

NO TIME IS TRULY THE
PAST FOR THE WAVERIDER.
ALL TIME IS AS ONE TO
ME... ONE INFINITE AND
ETERNAL STREAM

ALL TIME IS NOW...



... EVEN THIS FUTURE
ERA WHICH HOSTS MY
PREVIOUS LIFE AS THE
MORTAL MATTHEW
RYDER

IT IS A DARK TIME... A
TIME OF ABSOLUTE
ORDER IMPOSED UPON
THE WORLD BY AN
ABSOLUTE RULER...

... MONARCH!



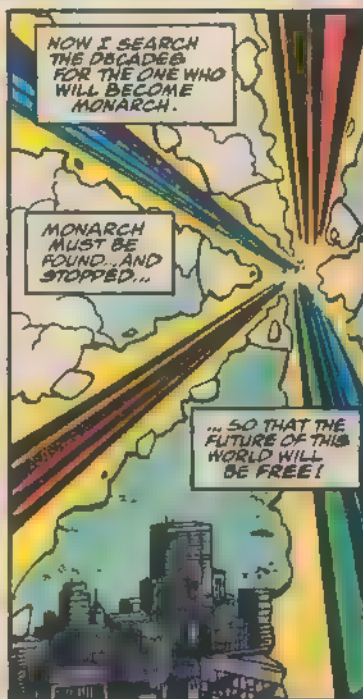
MONARCH'S IDENTITY IS YET
A MYSTERY. BUT I KNOW THAT
HIS... HER?... ORIGIN LIES IN
THE PREVIOUS CENTURY --

--AND THAT THE DESPOT
WAS ONCE ONE OF THE
WORLD'S GREATEST
SUPER-HEROES.



THAT IS WHY I
SACRIFICED MY
HUMANITY TO
THE EXPERIMENT...

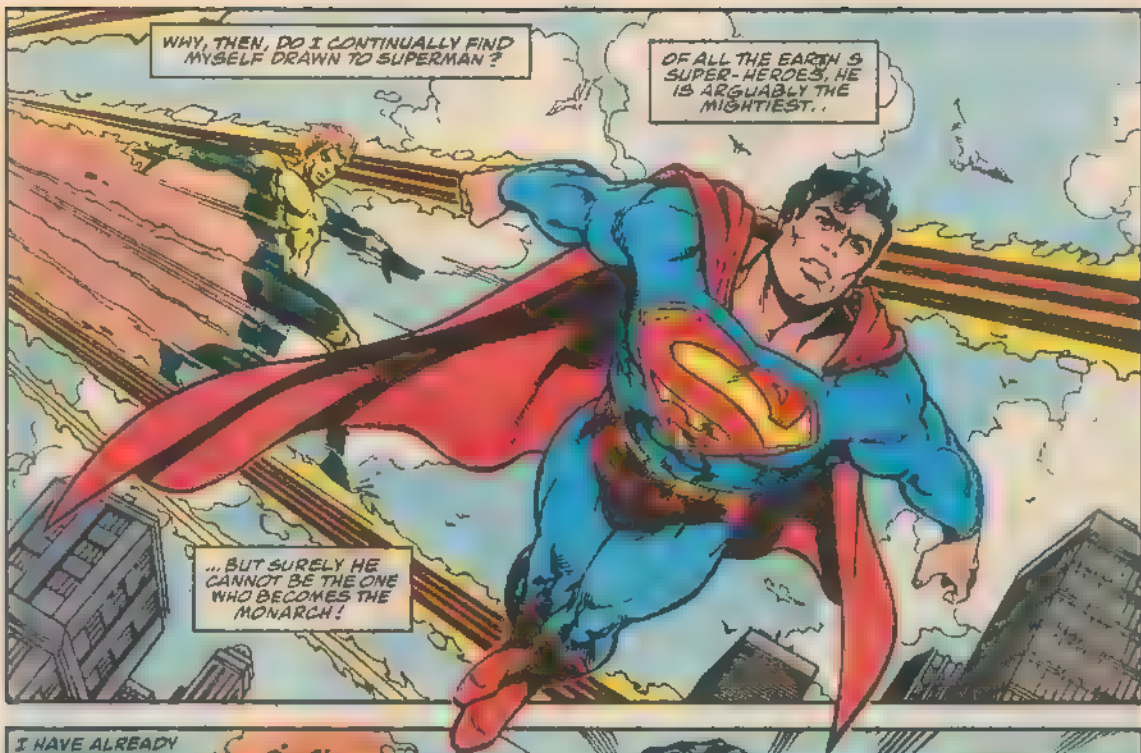
... WHY I ALLOWED MATT
RYDER'S BODY TO BE
TRANSFORMED INTO THE
SENTIENT ENERGY OF
THE WAVERIDER.



NOW I SEARCH
THE DECADES
FOR THE ONE WHO
WILL BECOME
MONARCH.

MONARCH
MUST BE
FOUND... AND
STOPPED...

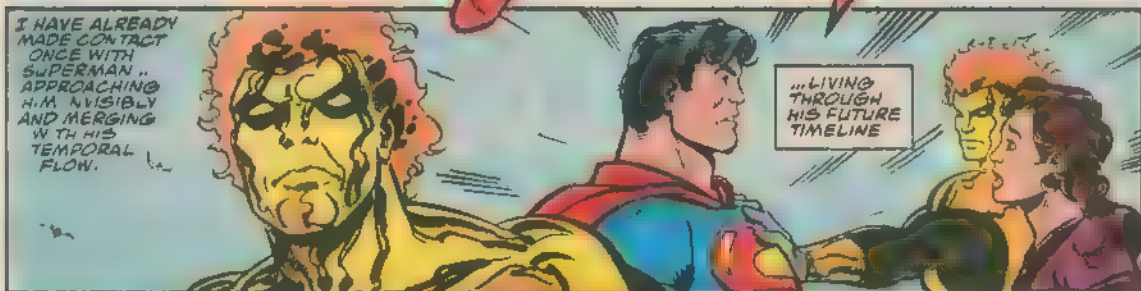
... SO THAT THE
FUTURE OF THIS
WORLD WILL
BE FREE!



WHY, THEN, DO I CONTINUALLY FIND MYSELF DRAWN TO SUPERMAN?

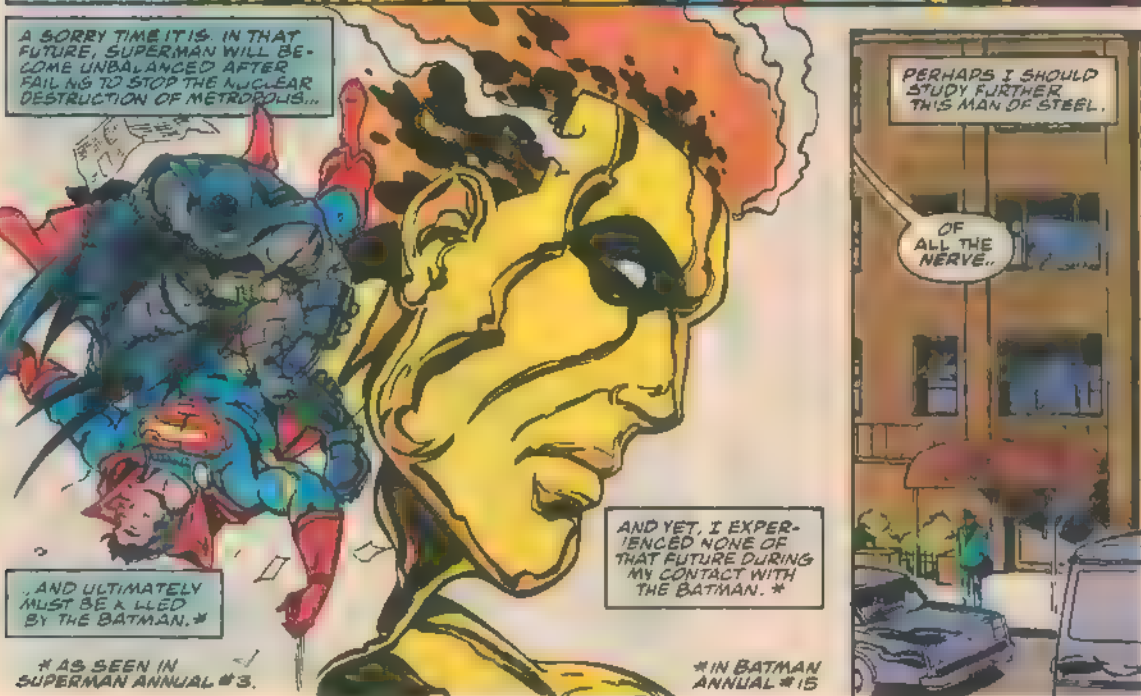
OF ALL THE EARTH'S SUPER-HEROES, HE IS ARGUABLY THE MIGHTIEST...

...BUT SURELY HE CANNOT BE THE ONE WHO BECOMES THE MONARCH!



I HAVE ALREADY MADE CONTACT ONCE WITH SUPERMAN... APPROACHING HIM VISIBLY AND MERGING WITH HIS TEMPORAL FLOW.

...LIVING THROUGH HIS FUTURE TIMELINE



A SORRY TIME IT IS. IN THAT FUTURE, SUPERMAN WILL BECOME UNBALANCED AFTER FAILING TO STOP THE NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION OF METROPOLIS...

PERHAPS I SHOULD STUDY FURTHER THIS MAN OF STEEL.

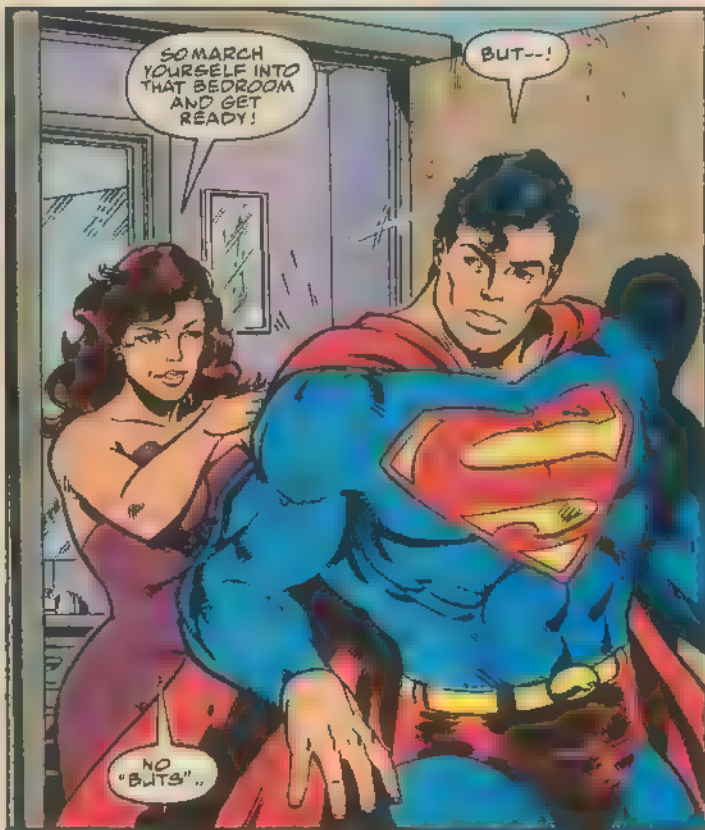
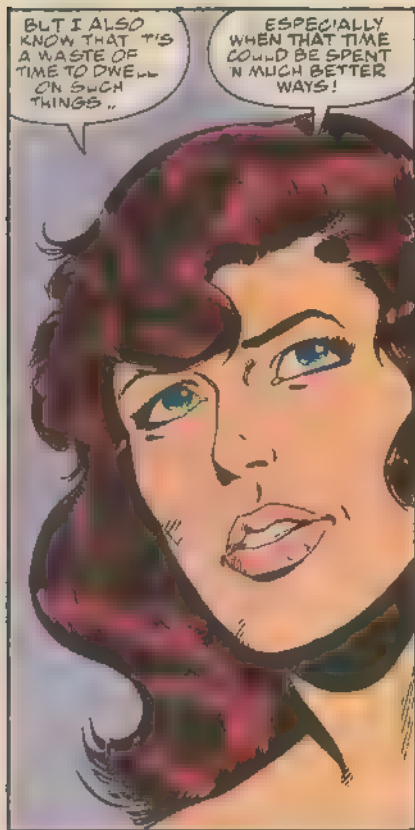
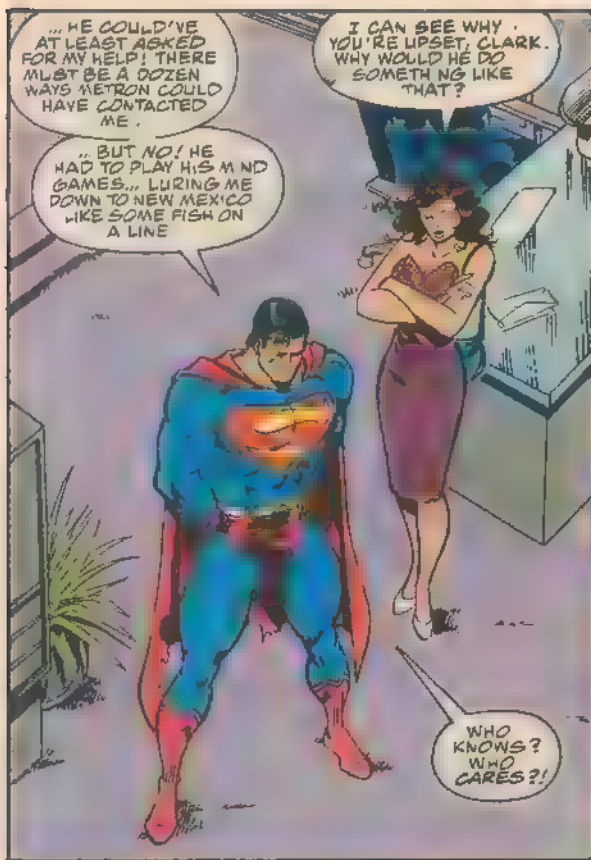
OF ALL THE NERVE...

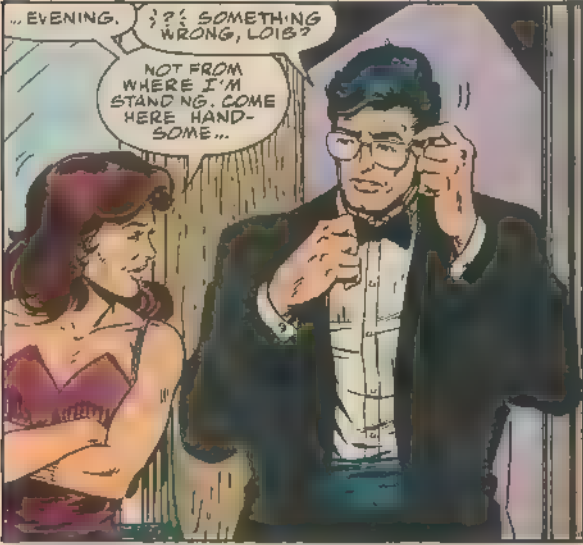
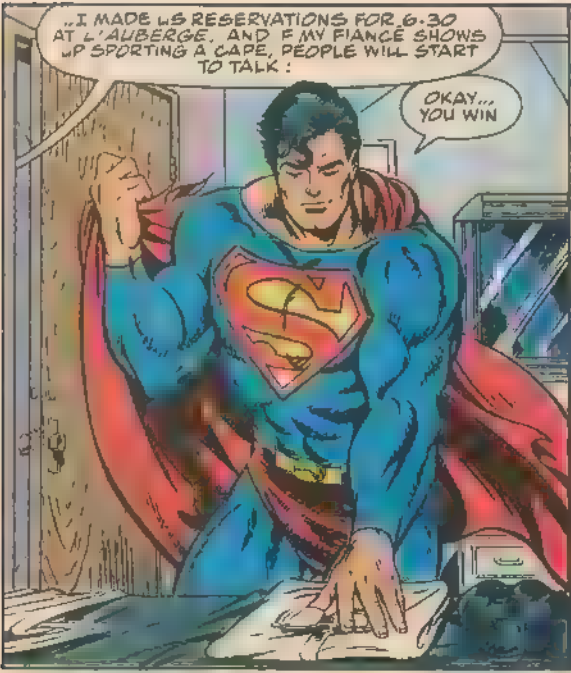
AND YET, I EXPERIENCED NONE OF THAT FUTURE DURING MY CONTACT WITH THE BATMAN.*

...AND ULTIMATELY MUST BE KILLED BY THE BATMAN.*

*AS SEEN IN SUPERMAN ANNUAL #3.

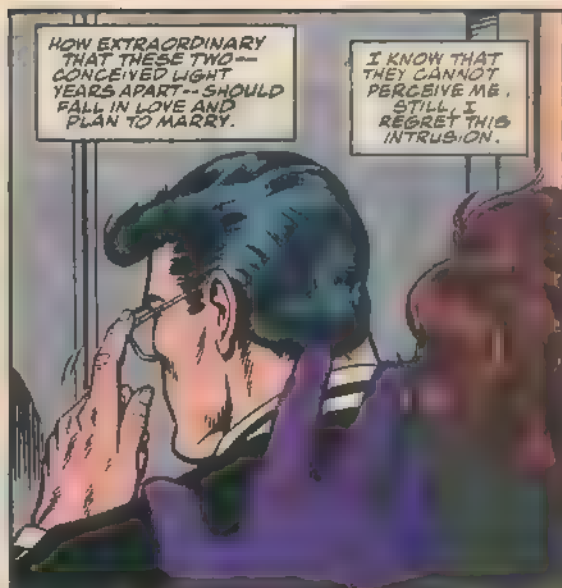
*IN BATMAN ANNUAL #15





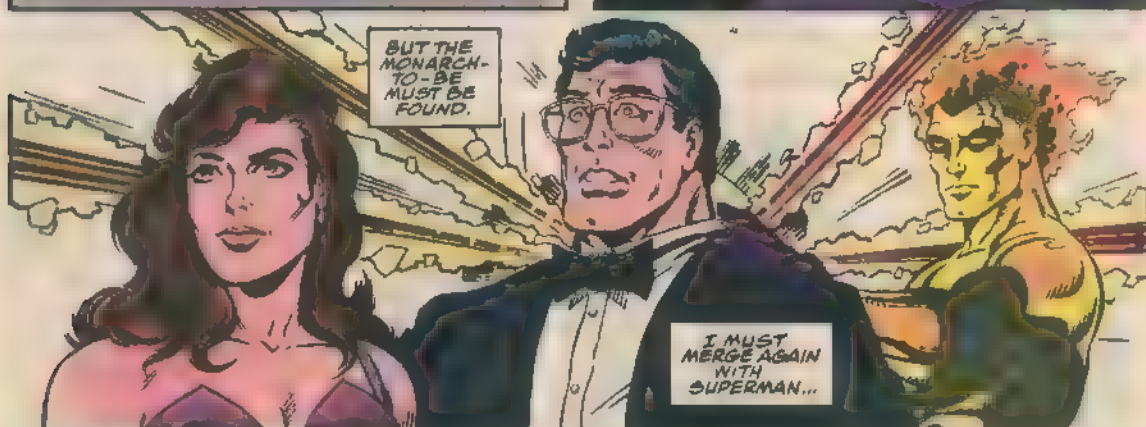


...NONE WOULD EVER SUSPECT THAT ONE OF THEM IS THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A DISTANT, DEAD PLANET.



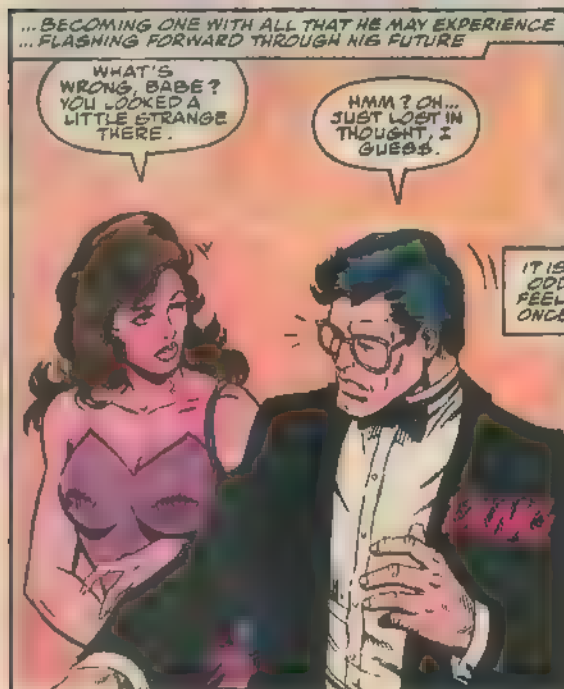
HOW EXTRAORDINARY THAT THESE TWO-- CONCEIVED LIGHT YEARS APART-- SHOULD FALL IN LOVE AND PLAN TO MARRY.

I KNOW THAT THEY CANNOT PERCEIVE ME. STILL, I REGRET THIS INTRUSION.



BUT THE MONARCH-TO-BE MUST BE FOUND.

I MUST MERGE AGAIN WITH SUPERMAN...

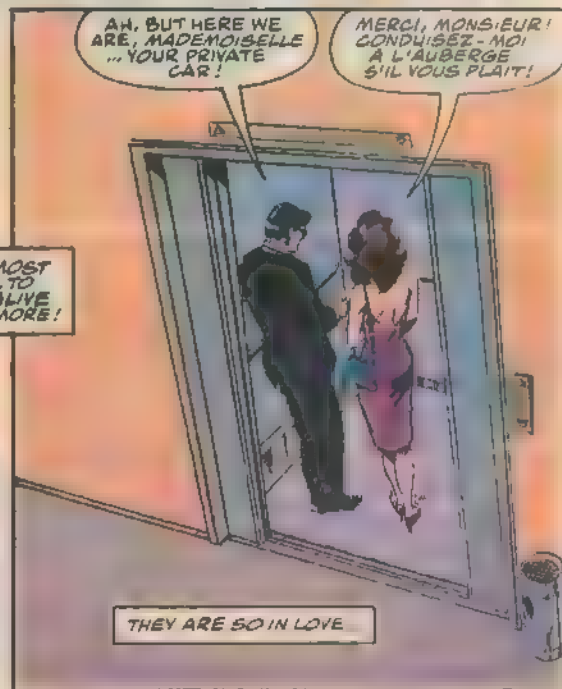


...BECOMING ONE WITH ALL THAT HE MAY EXPERIENCE ...FLASHING FORWARD THROUGH HIS FUTURE

WHAT'S WRONG, BABE? YOU LOOKED A LITTLE STRANGE THERE.

HMM? OH... JUST LOST IN THOUGHT, I GUESS.

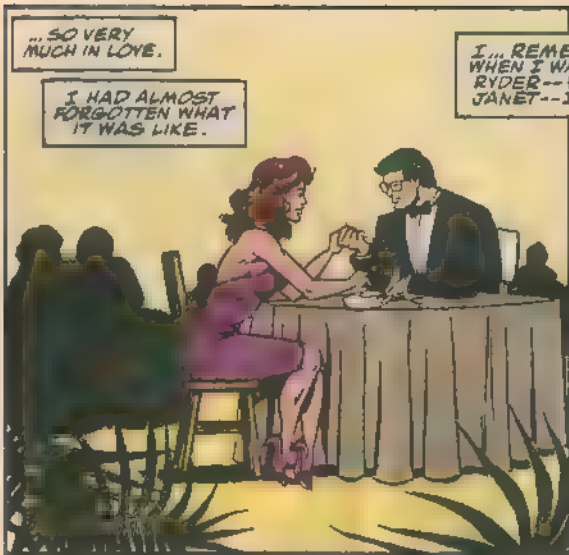
IT IS MOST ODD TO FEEL ALIVE ONCE MORE!



AH, BUT HERE WE ARE, MADMOISELLE ...YOUR PRIVATE CAR!

MERCI, MONSIEUR! CONDUISÉZ-MOI A L'AUBERGE S'IL VOUS PLAÎT!

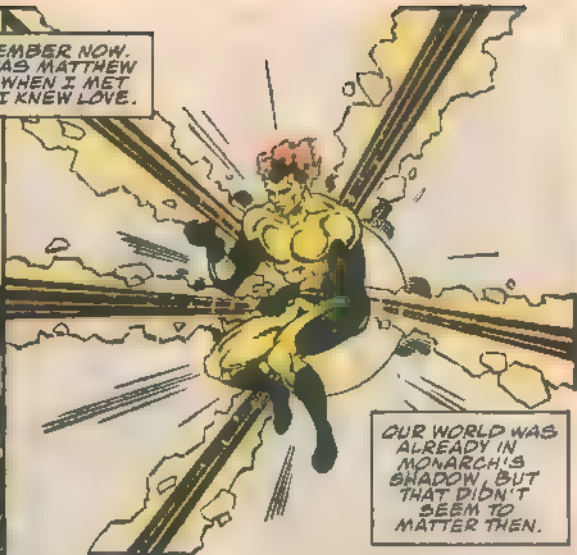
THEY ARE SO IN LOVE



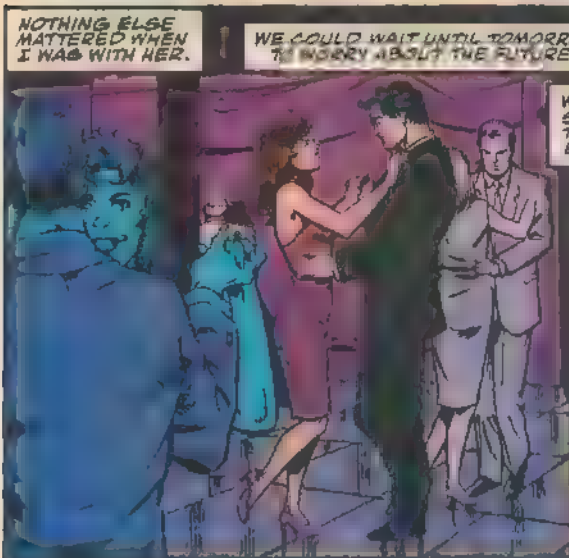
...SO VERY MUCH IN LOVE.

I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS LIKE.

I... REMEMBER NOW. WHEN I WAS MATTHEW RYDER-- WHEN I MET JANET-- I KNEW LOVE.



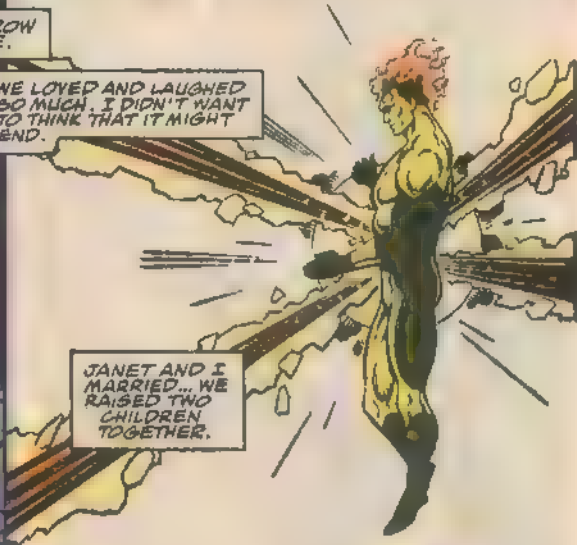
OUR WORLD WAS ALREADY IN MONARCH'S SHADOW, BUT THAT DIDN'T SEEM TO MATTER THEN.



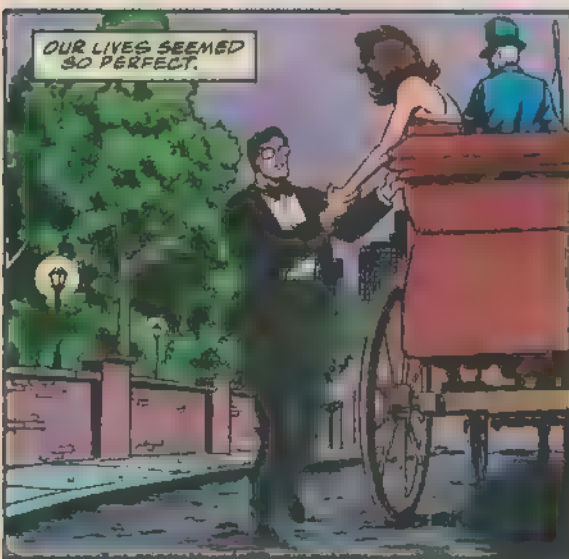
NOTHING ELSE MATTERED WHEN I WAS WITH HER.

WE COULD WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW TO WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE.

WE LOVED AND LAUGHED SO MUCH. I DIDN'T WANT TO THINK THAT IT MIGHT END.



JANET AND I MARRIED... WE RAISED TWO CHILDREN TOGETHER.



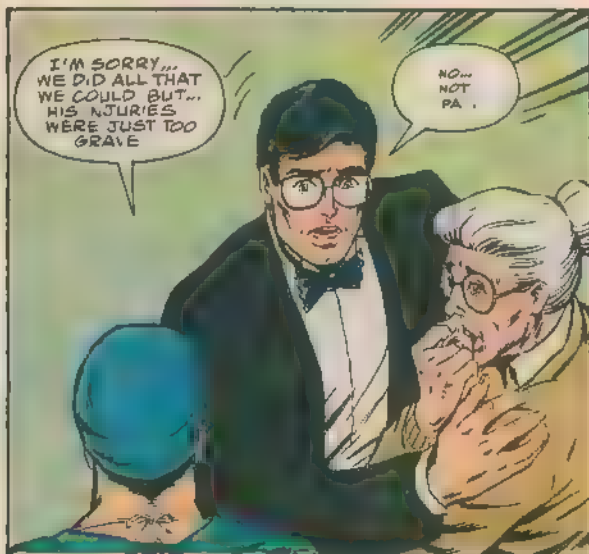
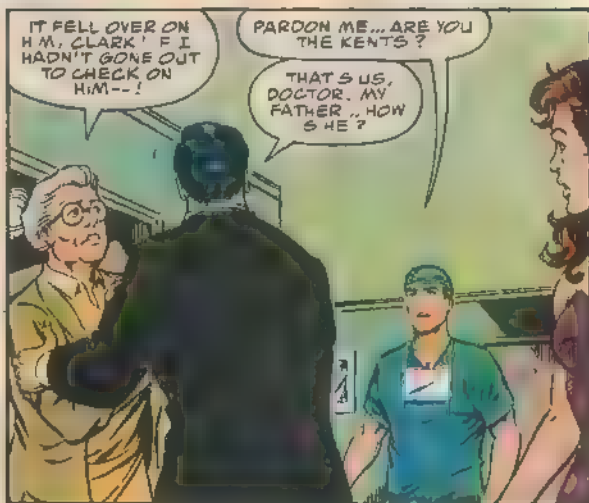
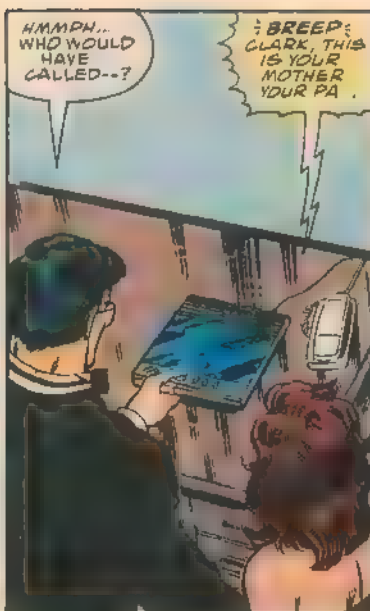
OUR LIVES SEEMED SO PERFECT.

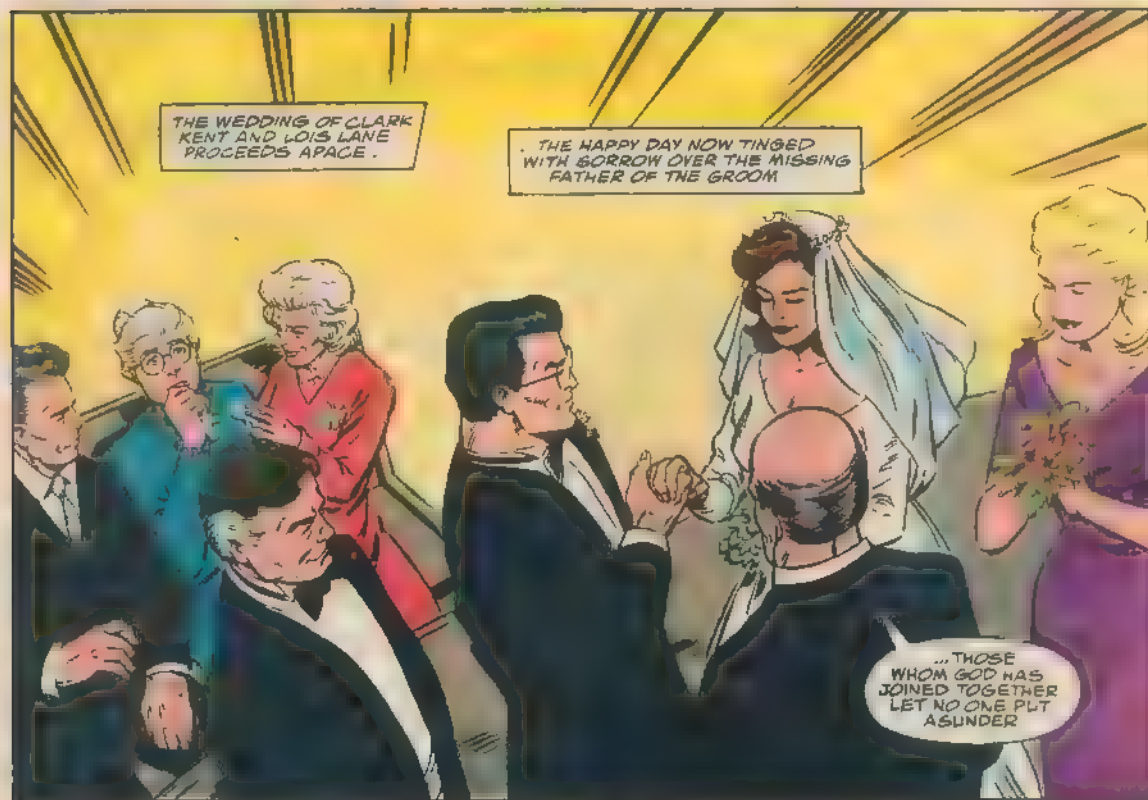
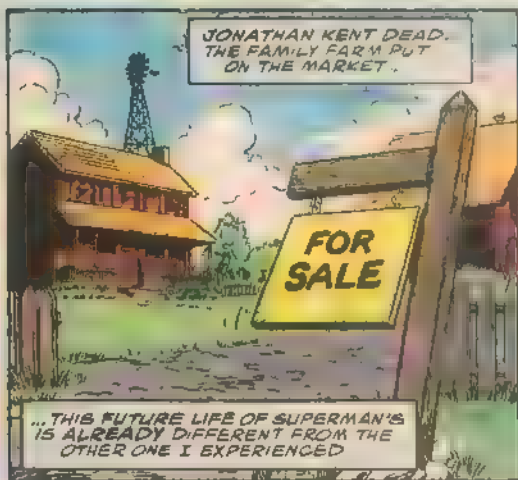
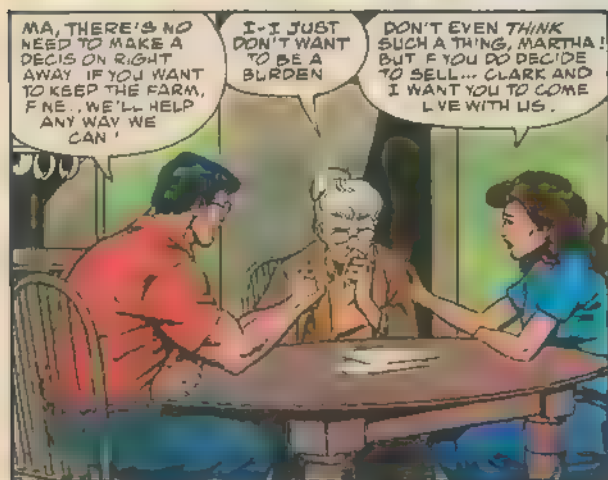


HOW DID WE BECOME SUCH STRANGERS?

I LOVED YOU SO, JANET

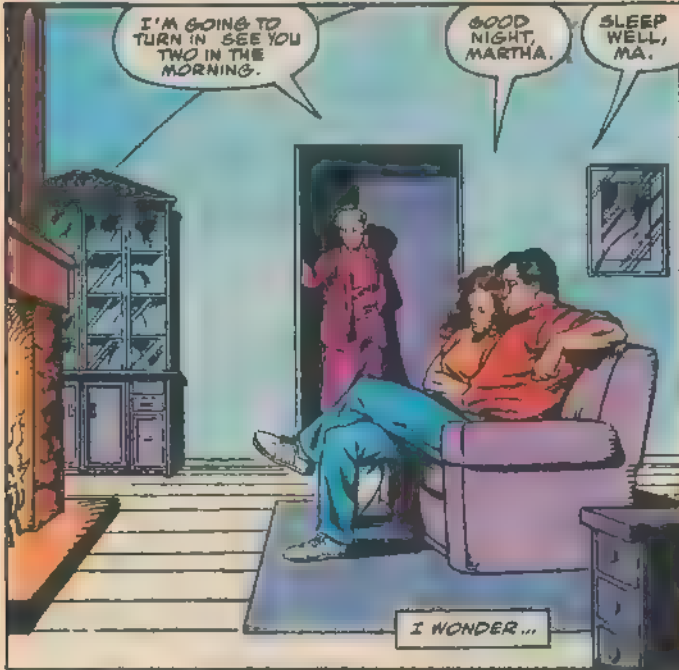
WHAT WENT WRONG WITH OUR LIVES







THE HONEYMOON IS BRIEF, AND THE NEWLYWEDS SOON SETTLE INTO THEIR NEW HOME IN METROPOLIS'S SUBURBAN PARK RIDGE...



I'M GOING TO TURN IN. SEE YOU TWO IN THE MORNING.

GOOD NIGHT, MARTHA.

SLEEP WELL, MA.

I WONDER...



...WHAT MORE WILL CHANGE IN THIS FUTURE?
KENT, YOU SURPRISE ME. I EXPECTED YOU AND LOIS TO KICK BACK A BIT AFTER THE WEDDING -- BUT THE TWO OF YOU ARE WORKING HARDER THAN EVER!

CAN'T BE HELPED, PERRY...



...NOT AS LONG AS INTERGANG'S STILL IN BUSINESS. SOMEBODY HAS TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THEIR OPERATIONS!

I AGREE... GO GET 'EM!

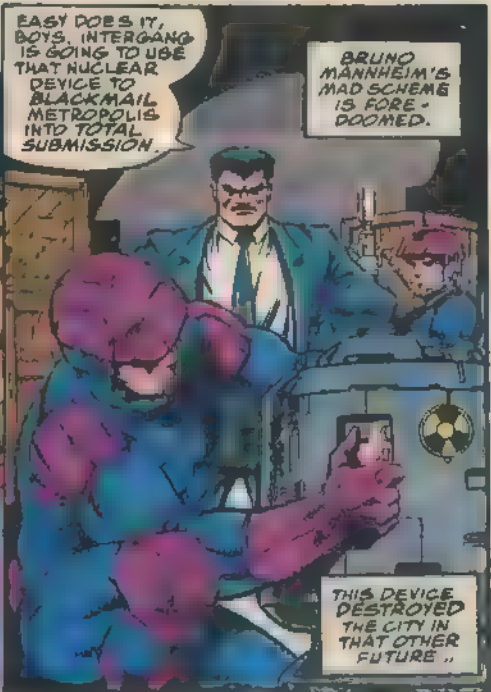
...BUT BE CAREFUL! THOSE CROOKS HAVE MORE FIREPOWER THAN MOST THIRD-WORLD NATIONS -- AND YOUR PAST EXPOSÉS HAVE ALREADY PUT YOU ON THEIR HIT LIST!

I'VE SURVIVED SO FAR, CHIEF...



...BUT INTERGANG WON'T. THEY HAVE TO BE STOPPED... SOON!

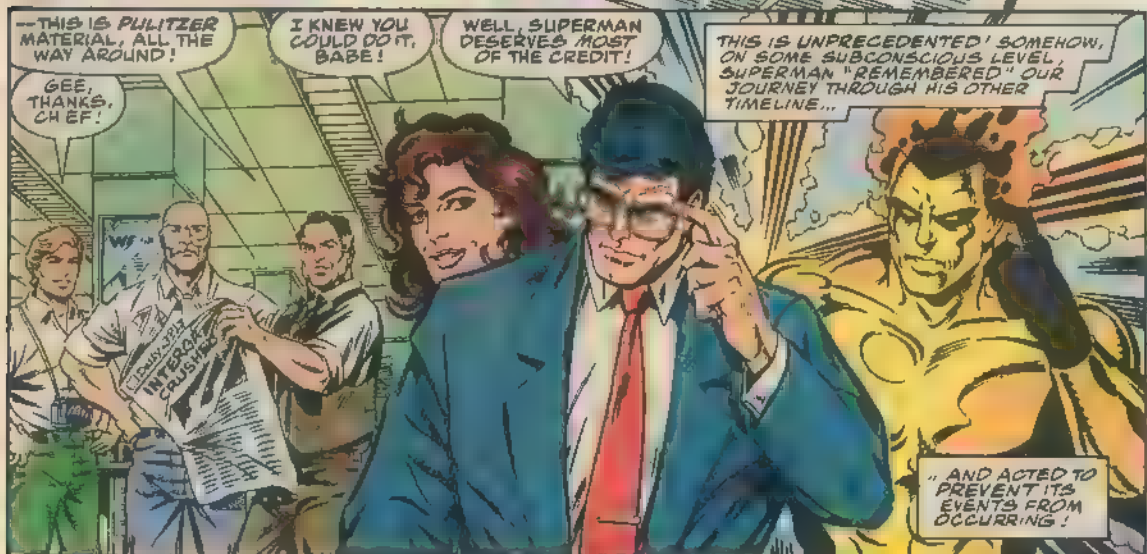
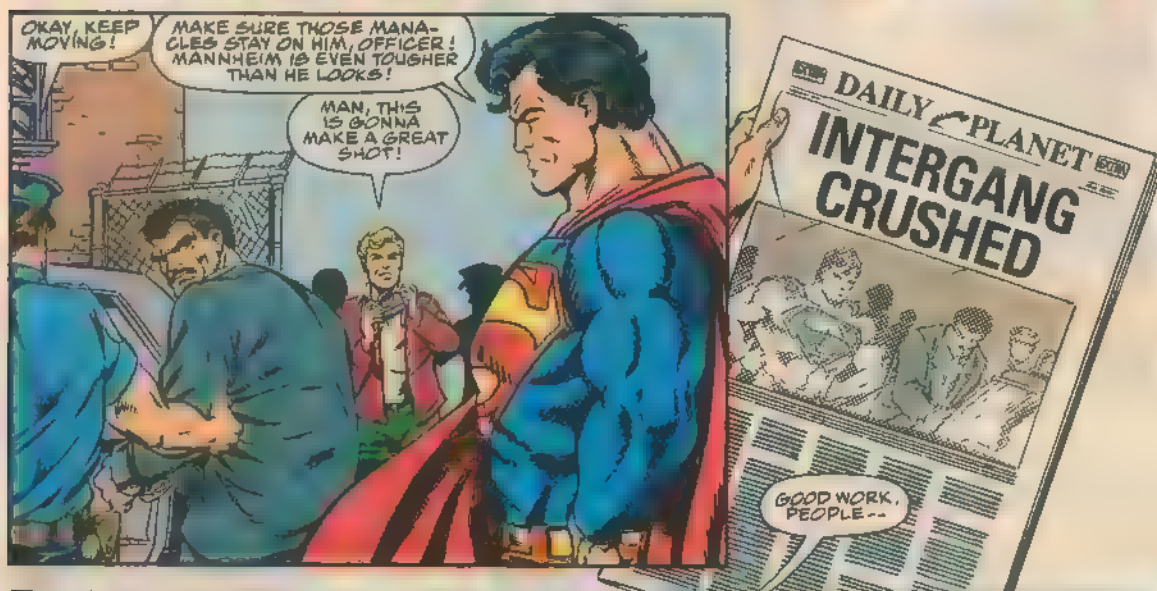
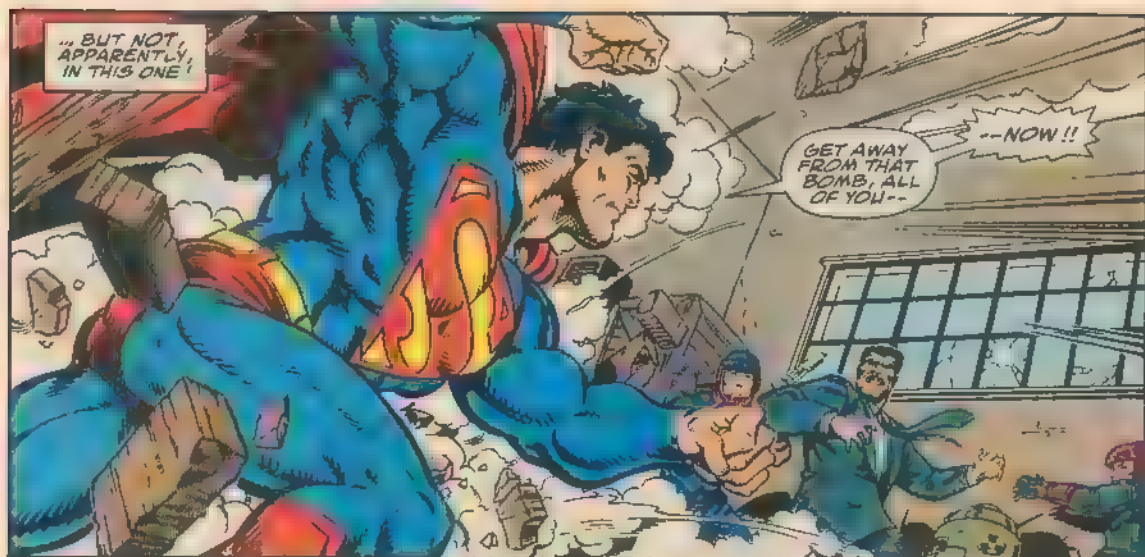
THERE IS GOOD REASON FOR URGENCY



EASY DOES IT, BOYS. INTERGANG IS GOING TO USE THAT NUCLEAR DEVICE TO BLACKMAIL METROPOLIS INTO TOTAL SUBMISSION.

BRUNO MANNHEIM'S MAD SCHEME IS FORE-DOOMED.

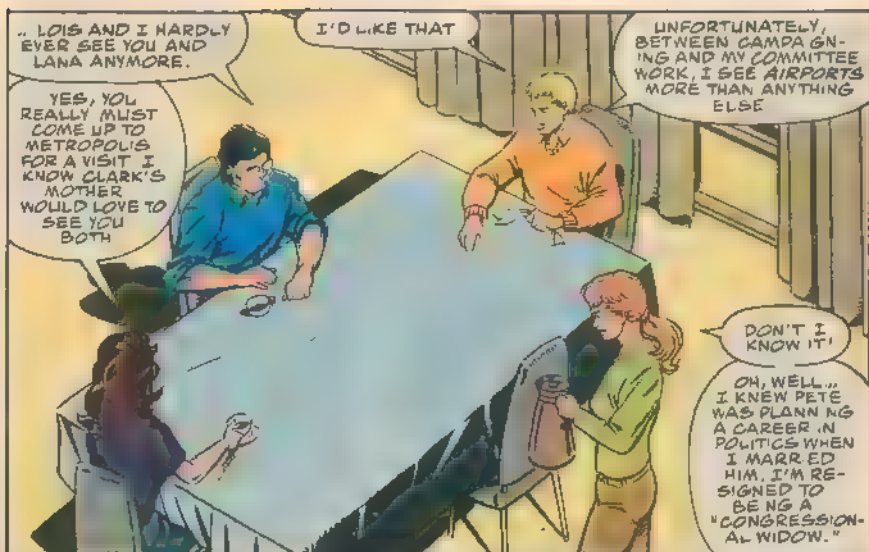
THIS DEVICE DESTROYED THE CITY IN THAT OTHER FUTURE...





CLEARLY, THIS WILL BE A VERY DIFFERENT FUTURE!

I'M GLAD WE COULD GET TOGETHER, PETE.



.. LOIS AND I HARDLY EVER SEE YOU AND LANA ANYMORE.

I'D LIKE THAT

UNFORTUNATELY, BETWEEN CAMPAIGNING AND MY COMMITTEE WORK, I SEE AIRPORTS MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE

YES, YOU REALLY MUST COME UP TO METROPOLIS FOR A VISIT I KNOW CLARK'S MOTHER WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU BOTH

DON'T I KNOW IT!

OH, WELL... I KNEW PETE WAS PLANNING A CAREER IN POLITICS WHEN I MARRIED HIM. I'M RESIGNED TO BEING A "CONGRESSIONAL WIDOW."



COME ON, LANA, YOU CAN'T FOOL AN OLD REPORTER... I KNOW HOW BUSY YOU'VE BEEN WITH THE CONSUMER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION.

YOU'VE BOTH DONE VERY WELL FOR YOURSELVES



YES... YES, WE HAVE. AND YOU HAVE, TOO

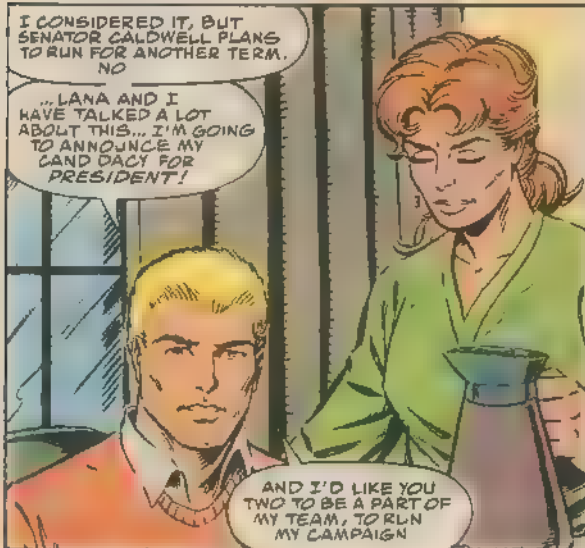
BUT A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVEN'T DONE WELL AT ALL!



YOU'VE BEEN A GOOD SPOKESMAN FOR THEM, PETE.

THANK YOU, CLARK, BUT THERE'S JUST SO MUCH A CONGRESSMAN CAN DO.

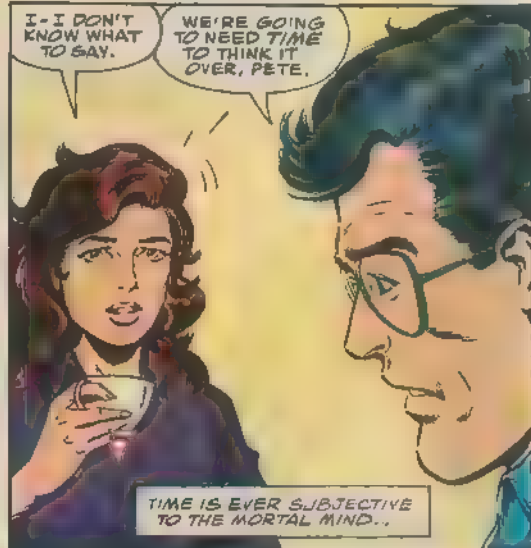
GIVING THOUGHT TO A RUN FOR THE SENATE, PETER?



I CONSIDERED IT, BUT SENATOR CALDWELL PLANS TO RUN FOR ANOTHER TERM. NO

.. LANA AND I HAVE TALKED A LOT ABOUT THIS... I'M GOING TO ANNOUNCE MY CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT!

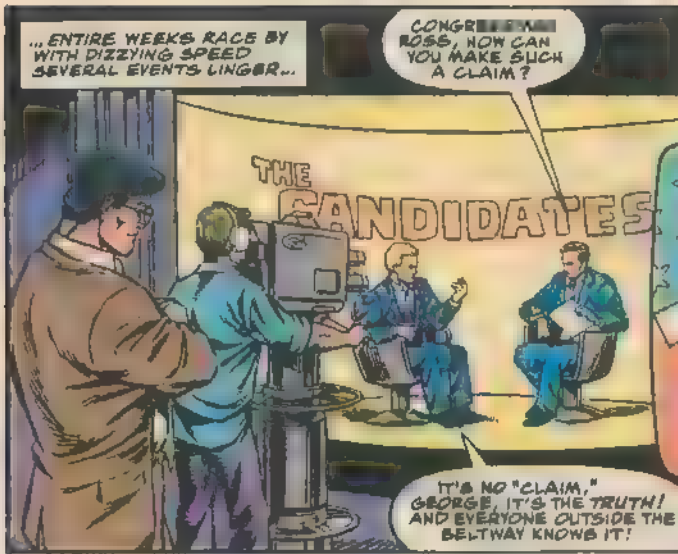
AND I'D LIKE YOU TWO TO BE A PART OF MY TEAM, TO RUN MY CAMPAIGN



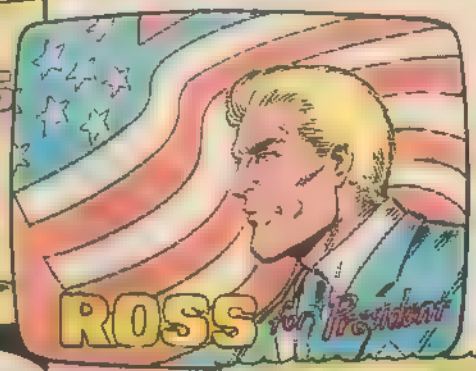
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

WE'RE GOING TO NEED TIME TO THINK IT OVER, PETE.

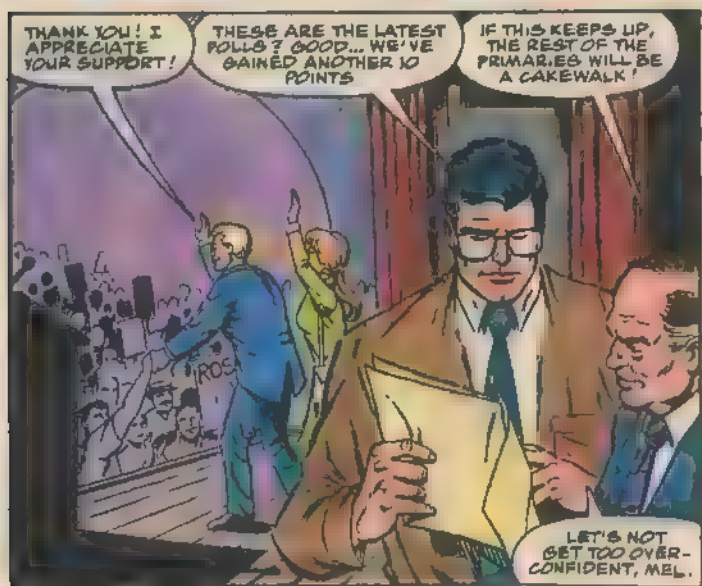
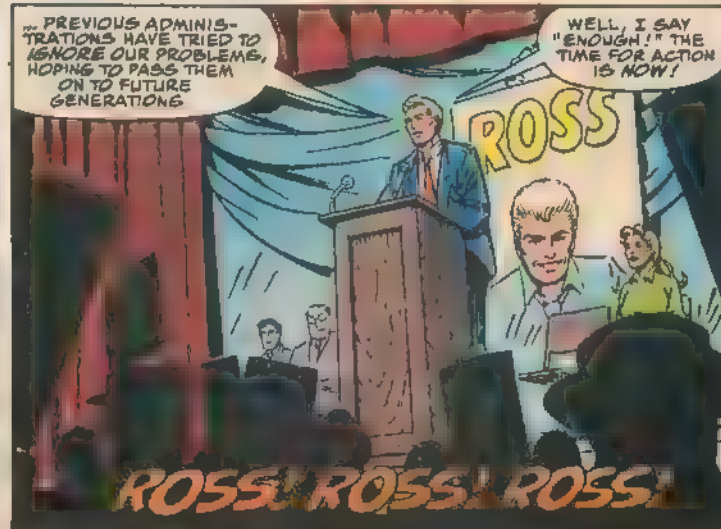
TIME IS EVER SUBJECTIVE TO THE MORTAL MIND..

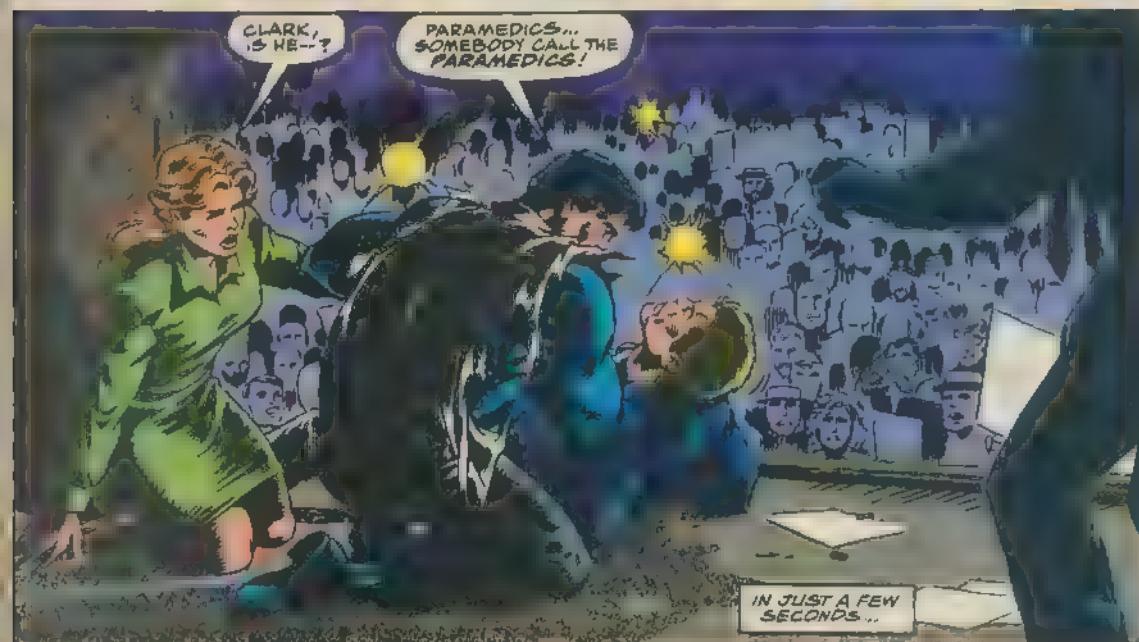
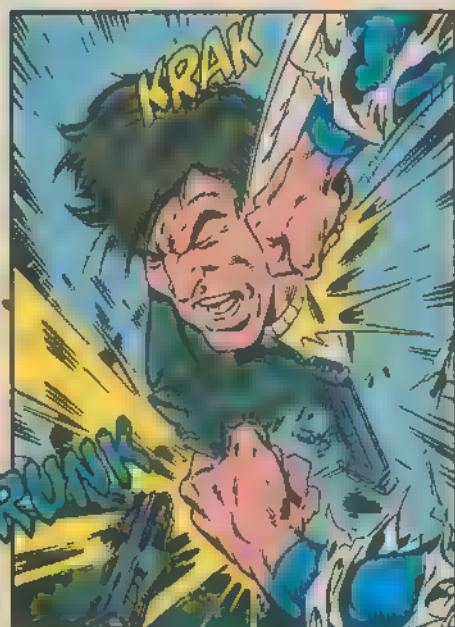
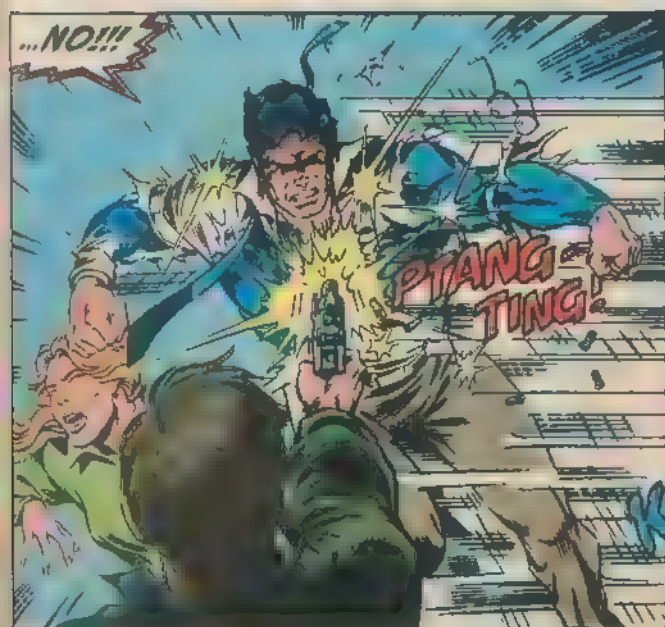
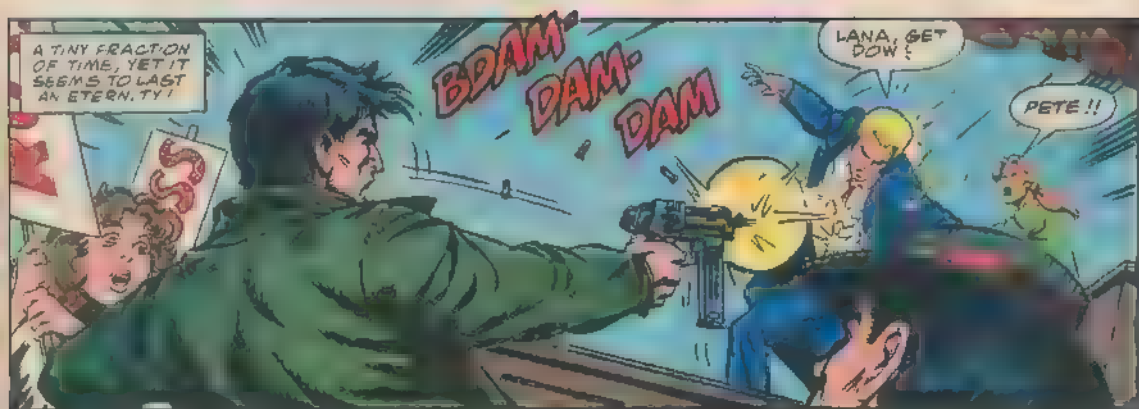


ROSS... FOR PRESIDENT. FOR ALL AMERICA



BECAUSE SECOND BEST JUST WON'T DO ANYMORE!



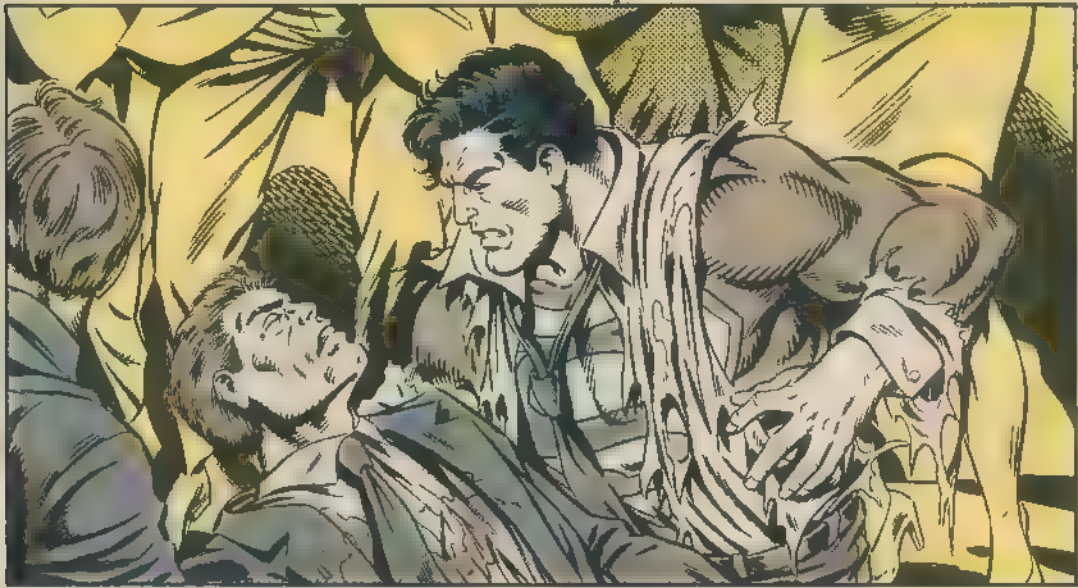


... A WHOLE WORLD
CAN CHANGE.

DAILY PLANET

Thursday, April 10, 2000 Price: 90¢

ROSS WOUNDED IN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT



TOP AIDE REVEALED TO BE SUPERMAN!

By STAN TIMMONS
Special to The Daily Planet

CALVIN CITY, Penn., April 10. Kansas Congressman Peter Ross was shot and gravely wounded at a campaign rally in Calvin City, Pennsylvania, last night.

Ross, a leading contender for his party's presidential nomination, had just finished speaking and was greeting well-wishers when an unidentified assailant stepped forward and opened fire with a semi-automatic

weapon. As Ross collapsed, his campaign manager, Clark Kent, charged across the room, shielding the congressman with his own body. As bullets were seen to bounce from his chest, Kent knocked the assailant unconscious and crushed the weapon in one hand.

It was then that witnesses noticed the familiar red, yellow, and blue uniform of Superman beneath the tatters of Kent's clothing.

continued on page 66

**MAN OF STEEL IS
FORMER JOURNALIST**

Clark Kent, until recently a reporter and columnist for the *Daily Planet*, was last night revealed to be Superman.

Kent, a three-time Pulitzer Prize winner, resigned his position with the *Planet* late last year to manage the presidential campaign of Congressman Peter Ross, whom he had known since childhood.

...BETHESDA NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER.

NO, CONGRESSMAN ROSS IS NOT ACCEPTING CALLS...

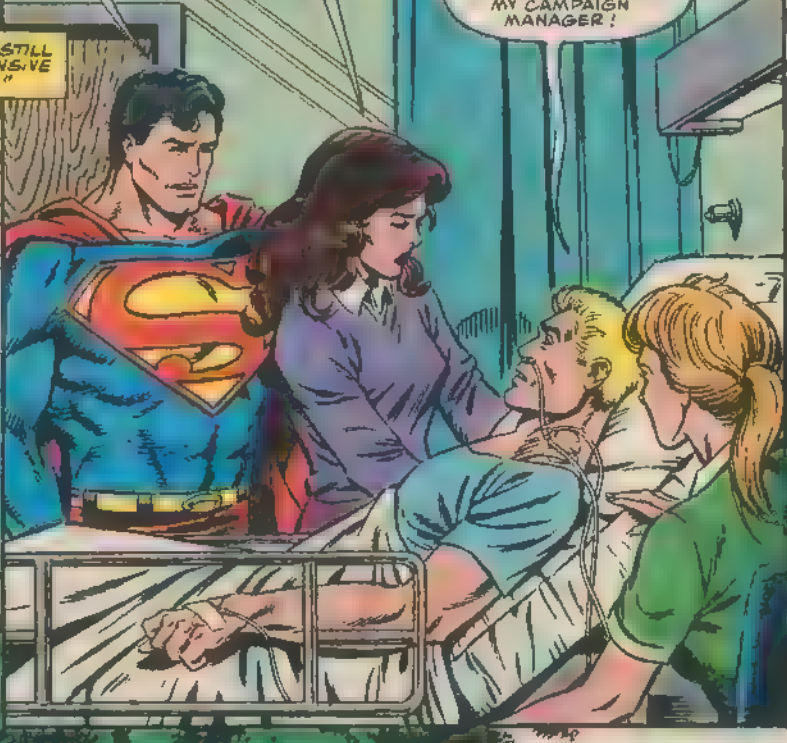
"... HE'S STILL IN INTENSIVE CARE."

PETE, I'M SORRY... I SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED--!

CLARK... YOU CAN'T OUT-GUESS EVERY LUNATIC.

I'VE TRIED TO TELL HIM

LISTEN TO HER, CLARK. Y'KNOW, I STILL... CAN'T GET OVER IT... SUPERMAN WAS MY CAMPAIGN MANAGER!



"WAS"? YOU MEAN, IS, PETE!

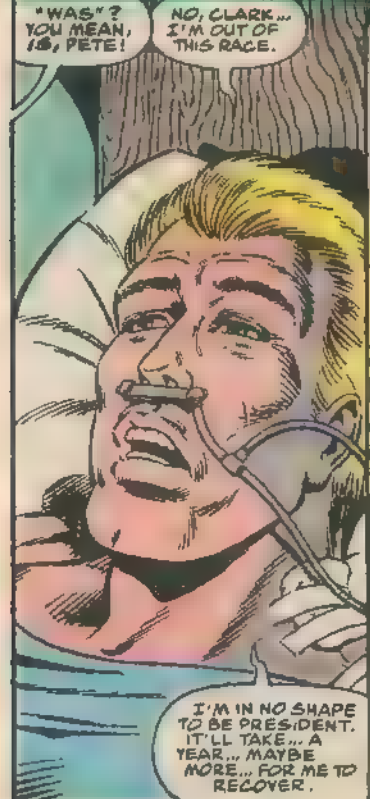
NO, CLARK... I'M OUT OF THIS RACE.

THERE LL BE OTHER ELECTIONS

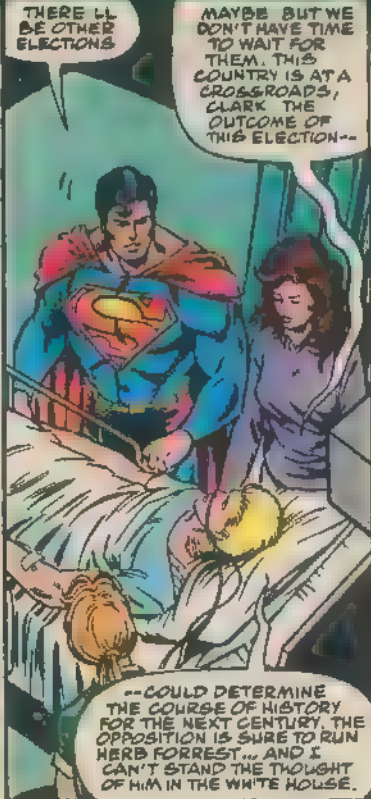
MAYBE BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WAIT FOR THEM. THIS COUNTRY IS AT A CROSSROADS, CLARK. THE OUTCOME OF THIS ELECTION--

I KNOW THAT YOU FEEL AS I DO, CLARK... THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO PICK UP THE BANNER FOR ME.

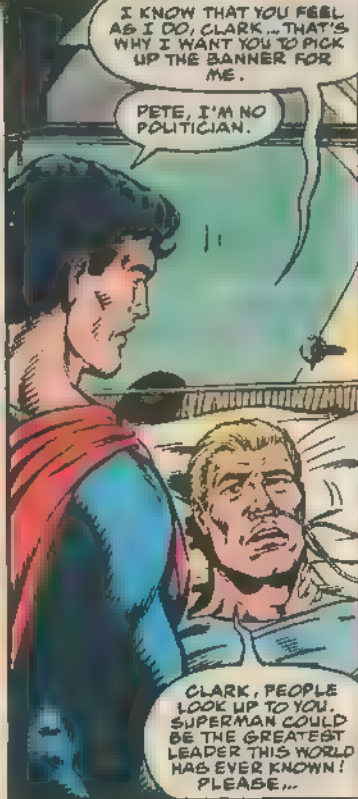
PETE, I'M NO POLITICIAN.



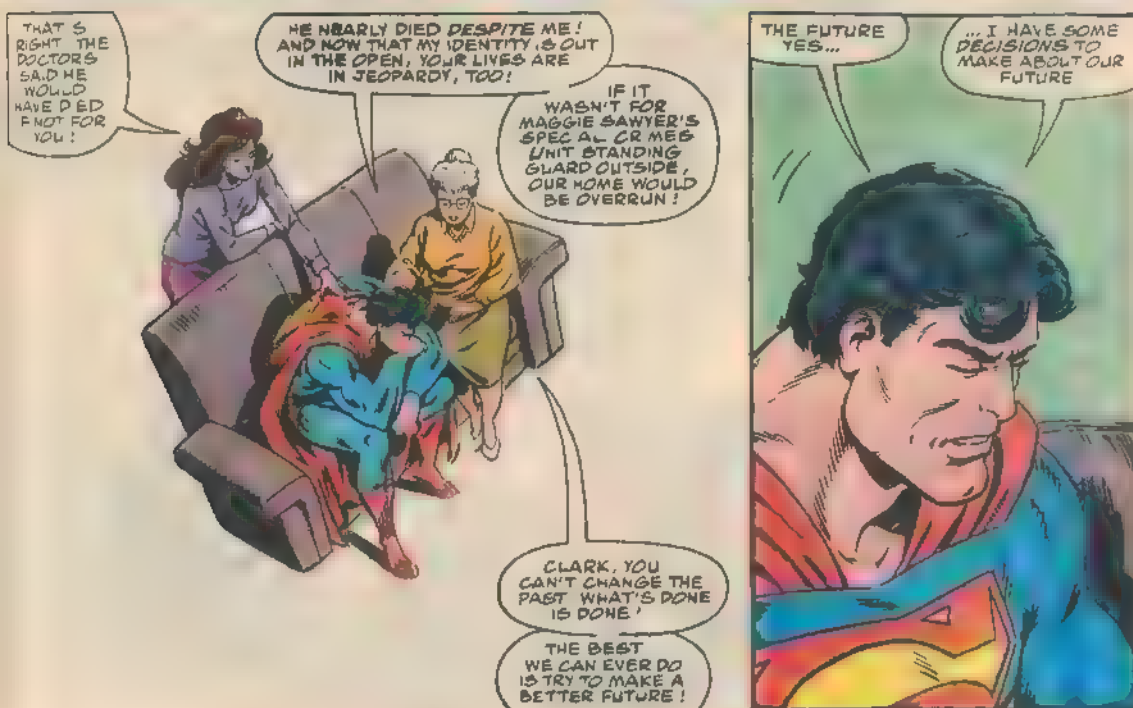
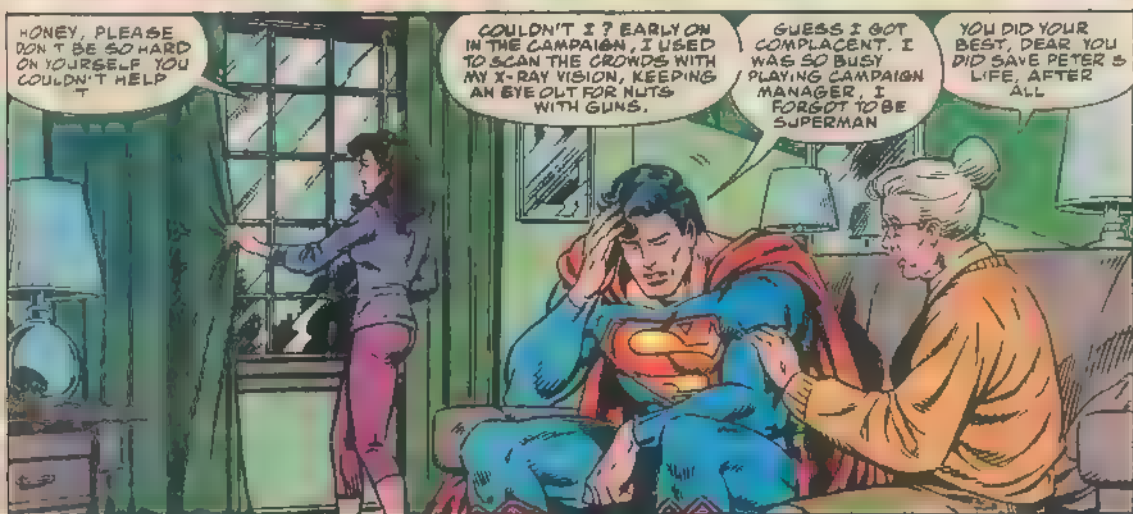
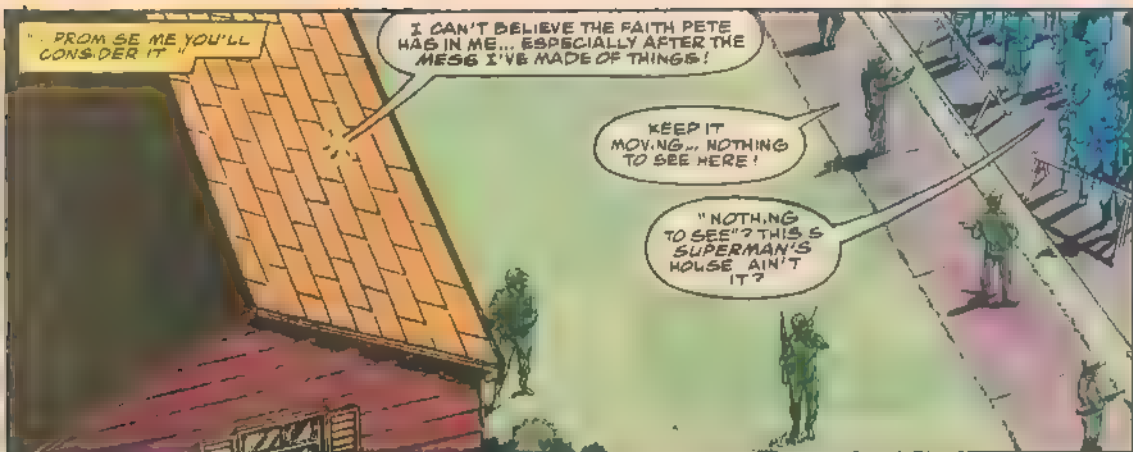
I'M IN NO SHAPE TO BE PRESIDENT. IT'LL TAKE... A YEAR... MAYBE MORE... FOR ME TO RECOVER.



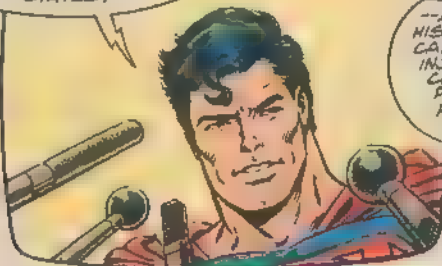
--COULD DETERMINE THE COURSE OF HISTORY FOR THE NEXT CENTURY. THE OPPOSITION IS SURE TO RUN HERB FORREST... AND I CAN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF HIM IN THE WHITE HOUSE.



CLARK, PEOPLE LOOK UP TO YOU. SUPERMAN COULD BE THE GREATEST LEADER THIS WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN! PLEASE...



...AND SO, AFTER TALKING IT OVER WITH MY FAMILY, I HAVE DECIDED TO SEEK THE NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES!



...THAT STATEMENT MADE JUST MINUTES AGO... COLUMNIST AND AUTHOR CLARK KENT, BETTER KNOWN AS SUPERMAN--

--ANNOUNCING HIS INTENTION TO CARRY ON FOR HIS INJURED FRIEND, CONGRESSMAN PETER ROSS. REACTION WAS IMMEDIATE--

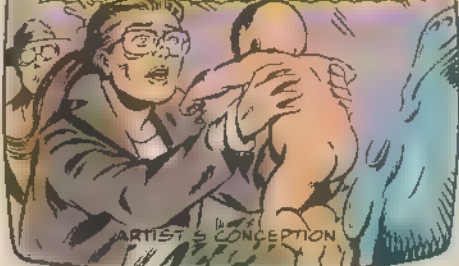


--AND NOT ALL OF IT POSITIVE!

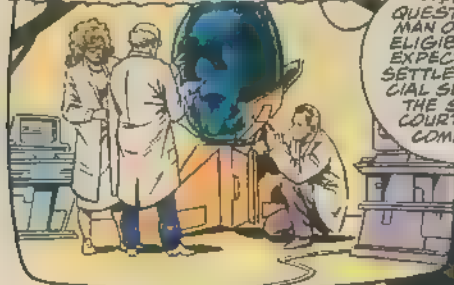


IS THIS SOME SORT OF SICK JOKE? ONLY NATIVE-BORN AMERICANS CAN BE ELECTED PRESIDENT --AND HE'S AN ALIEN!

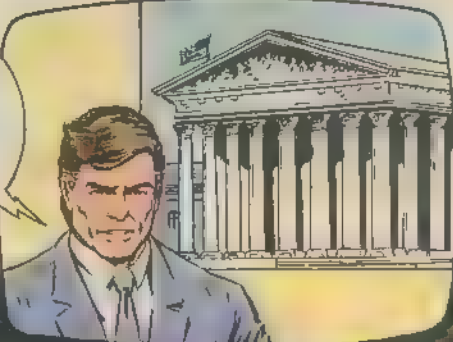
A NEWS RELEASE FROM THE KENT CAMPAIGN STAFF STATES THAT THE CANDIDATE WAS BORN FROM AN ARTIFICIAL WOMB IN A KANSAS CORNFIELD.



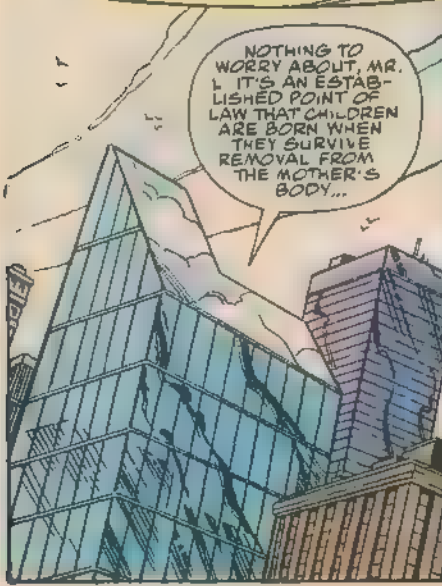
THE WOMB--OR BIRTHING MATRIX--HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO S.T.A.R. LABS FOR VERIFICATION--



--AND THE QUESTION OF THE MAN OF STEEL'S ELIGIBILITY IS EXPECTED TO BE SETTLED BY A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SUPREME COURT WITHIN THE COMING WEEK



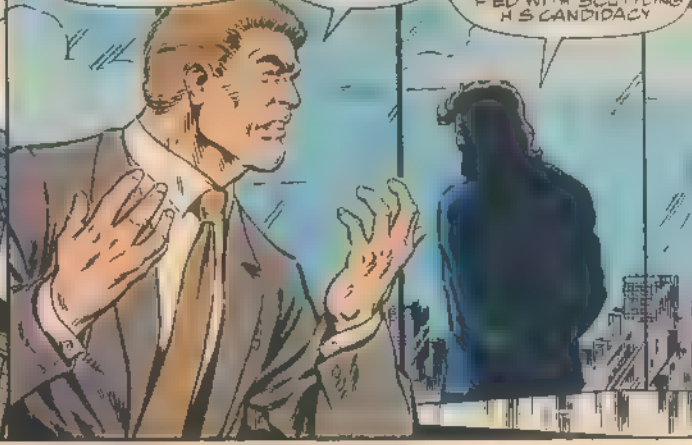
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, MR. L. IT'S AN ESTABLISHED POINT OF LAW THAT CHILDREN ARE BORN WHEN THEY SURVIVE REMOVAL FROM THE MOTHER'S BODY...

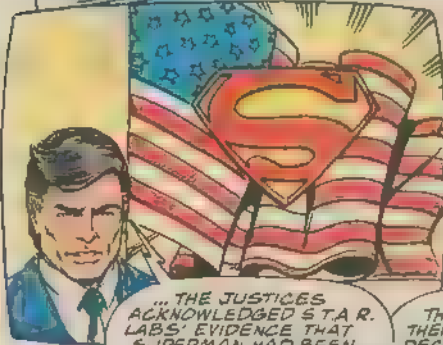
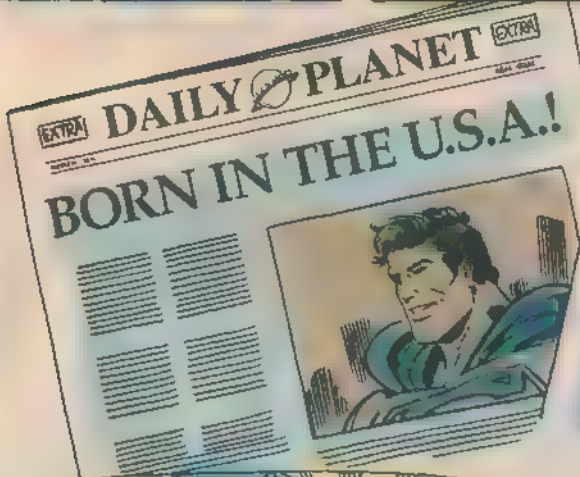
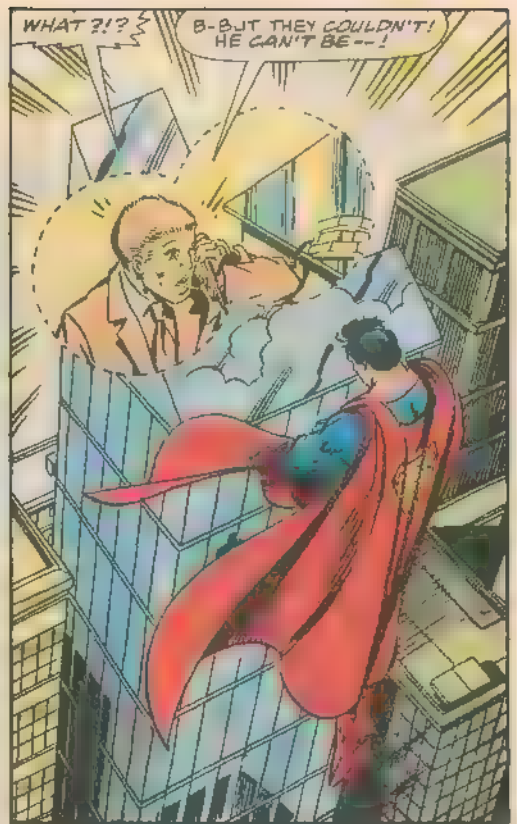


...THERE'S NO WAY THE COURT WILL ACCEPT SUPERMAN'S COCK-AND-BULL STORY. I GUARANTEE THEY'LL REJECT HIS CITIZENSHIP CLAIM!

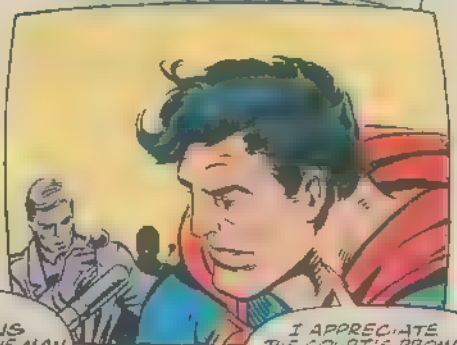
WHY, MY LEGAL TEAM WILL PROBABLY GET HIM DEPORTED!

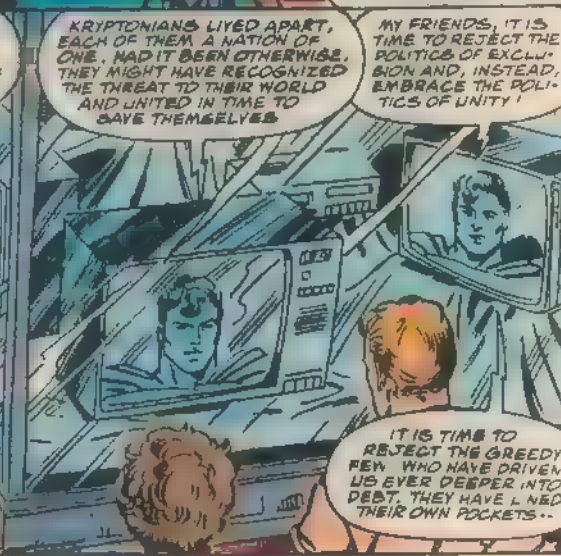
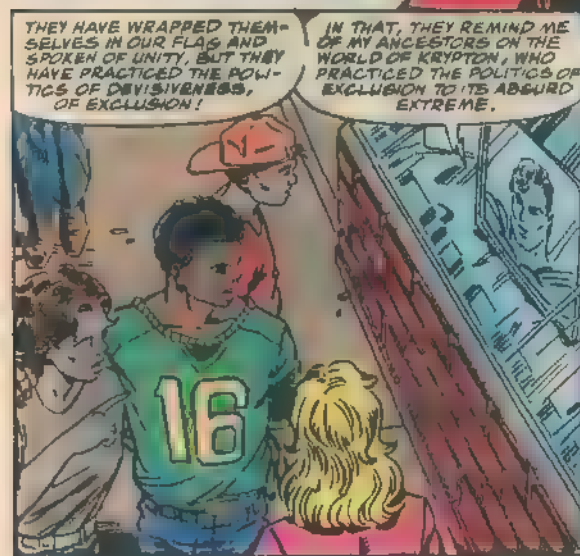
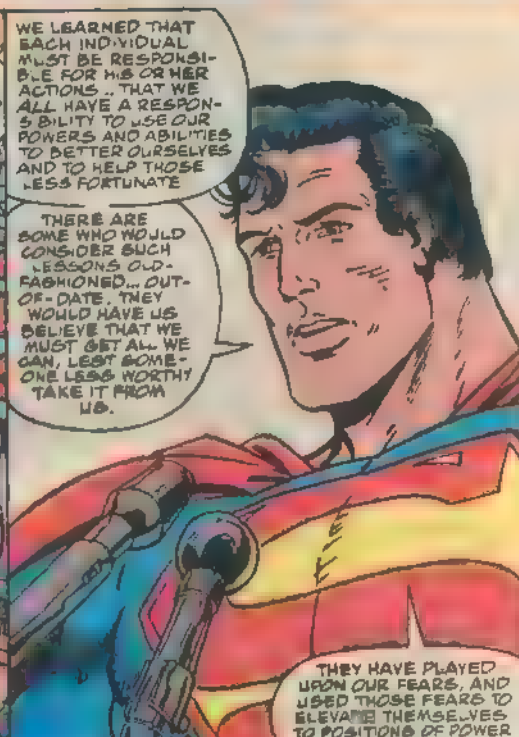
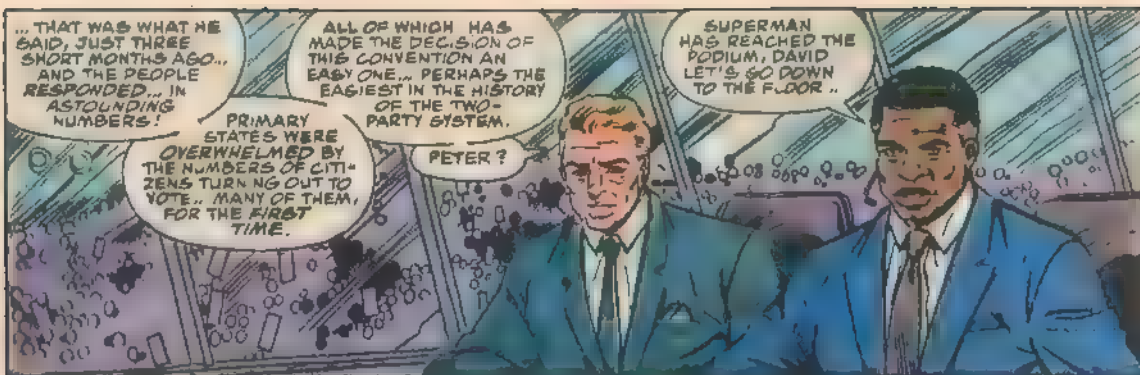
AND JUST WHERE WOULD YOU HAVE HIM DEPORTED TO, DICK? NO FOR NOW I'LL BE SATISFIED WITH SCUTTLING HIS CANDIDACY





THUS, IT WAS THEIR UNANIMOUS DECISION THAT THE MAN OF STEEL WAS TRULY BORN ONLY AFTER THE MATRIX OPENED ON U.S. SOIL!





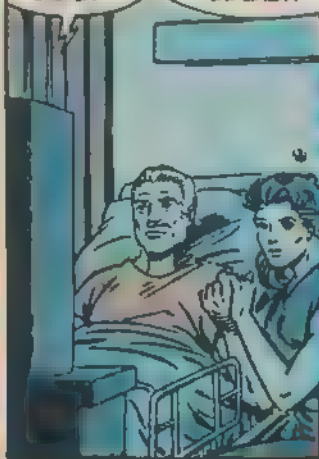
--EVEN AS THEY DENIED US
THE FUNDS TO IMPROVE OUR
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONS AND
TO CLEANSE OUR AIR, WATER
AND SOIL!

THE TIME HAS COME,
MY FRIENDS, TO REJECT THEIR
LEADERSHIP OF FEAR, AND
VOTE THEM OUT OF OFFICE!

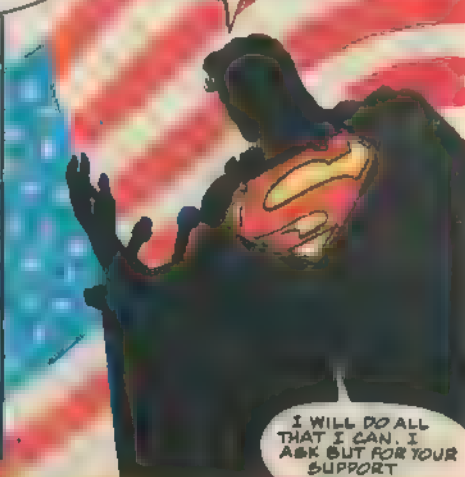


PETE ROSS
NEVER
FORGOT THE
LESSONS OF
HIS YOUTH...
AND NEITHER
DID I.

THE PROBLEMS WE
ALL FACE CAN BE
SOLVED-- IF WE SHOW
THE WILL AND DETER-
MINATION TO SOLVE
THEM! IT WILL NOT
BE EASY.



THE BATTLE FOR
TRUTH... FOR JUSTICE...
FOR THE HIGHEST IDEALS
OF THE AMERICAN WAY...
IS NEVER-ENDING. BUT
IT MUST BE FOUGHT!



I WILL DO ALL
THAT I CAN. I
ASK BUT FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

PETER, I DON'T
KNOW IF YOU CAN HEAR
ME... THE RESPONSE
TO KENT'S SPEECH IS
RATHER DEAFENING!



I'M NOT ONE
FOR MAKING
PREDICTIONS,
BUT I'D HATE
TO BE HIS
OPPONENT
RIGHT NOW

AND THERE... THE
CANDIDATE AND HIS WIFE
ARE BEING JOINED BY HIS
RUNNING MATE, CONGRESS-
WOMAN SARAH HEMMING,
AND HER HUSBAND

POLITICAL
CONVENTIONS ALWAYS
PUT ON SHOWS OF SOLIDARITY,
OF COURSE, BUT THIS TIME...
THERE'S A FEELING THAT IT'S
MORE THAN JUST A
SHOW!



THE RACE FOR POWER
NOW QUICKENS...

AS NOVEMBER DRAWS NEAR, SUPERMAN IS EVERYWHERE!

NEVER HAS A CANDIDATE MADE SO MANY PERSONAL APPEARANCES IN SO SHORT A TIME... CERTAINLY NEVER TRAVELING UNDER HIS OWN POWER!

HE TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE DEBATES TO RAISE ISSUES...

I'LL BE GLAD TO DISCUSS MY INCURSION INTO QURAC, SENATOR FORREST AND I HOPE YOU'LL TELL US ALL ABOUT THE PART YOU PLAYED IN SUPPLYING THAT COUNTRY WITH ARMS

A SUPER-LEADER FOR A SUPER-POWER

UH...

THE CROWDS GROW EVER LARGER, THE RESPONSE EVER MORE ENTHUSIASTIC.

NATIONAL NEWS WORLD REPORT

Picture News

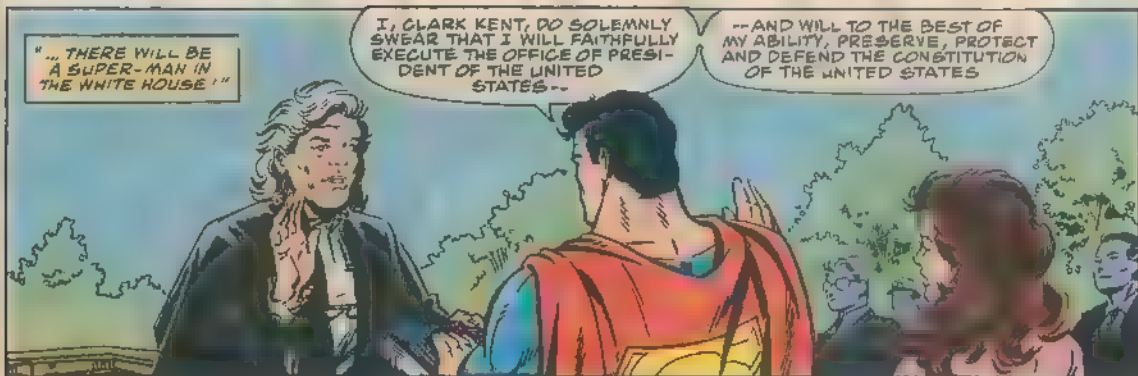
NewsTime
THE MAKING OF A LANDSLIDE

I HAVE SENT MR. KENT A TELEGRAM CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS VICTORY

...SO SAYING, FORMER SENATOR HERBERT FORREST CONCEDED DEFEAT--

S

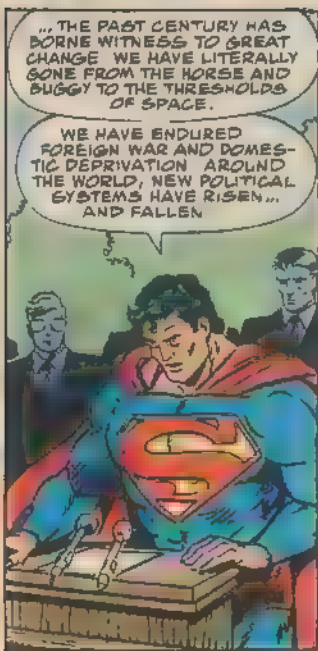
--AND CONFIRMED THAT CLARK KENT IS THIS NATION'S PRESIDENT-ELECT, ON NEXT JANUARY 20TH...



"... THERE WILL BE A SUPER-MAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE !"

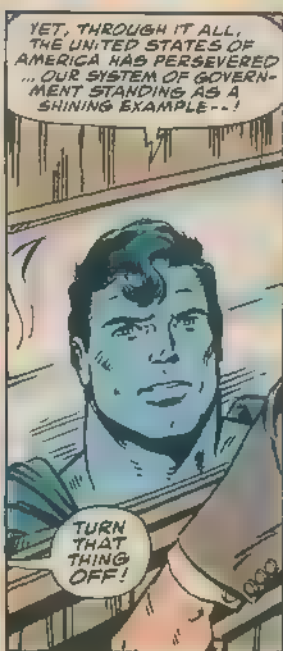
I, CLARK KENT, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES--

--AND WILL TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES



"... THE PAST CENTURY HAS BORNE WITNESS TO GREAT CHANGE. WE HAVE LITERALLY GONE FROM THE HORSE AND BUGGY TO THE THRESHOLDS OF SPACE.

WE HAVE ENDURED FOREIGN WAR AND DOMESTIC DEPRIVATION AROUND THE WORLD, NEW POLITICAL SYSTEMS HAVE RISEN... AND FALLEN



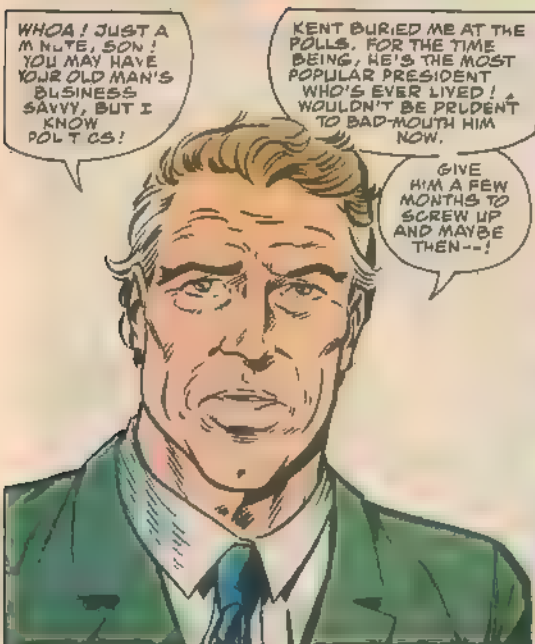
TURN THAT THING OFF!



I DIDN'T COME DOWN TO WASHINGTON TO HEAR THAT ~~SHIT~~!! INVOKE THE FOUNDING FATHERS!

I HATED MISSING THE INAUGURATION, LUTHOR... MAKES ME LOOK LIKE A POOR SPORT... A BAD LOSER WHY'D YOU INSIST THAT I MEET YOU HERE?

WE MUST PLAN OUR NEXT MOVE AGAINST THAT... THAT ALIEN!



WHOA! JUST A MINUTE, SON! YOU MAY HAVE YOUR OLD MAN'S BUSINESS SAVVY, BUT I KNOW POLITICS!

KENT BURIED ME AT THE POLLS. FOR THE TIME BEING, HE'S THE MOST POPULAR PRESIDENT WHO'S EVER LIVED! WOULDN'T BE PRUDENT TO BAD-MOUTH HIM NOW.

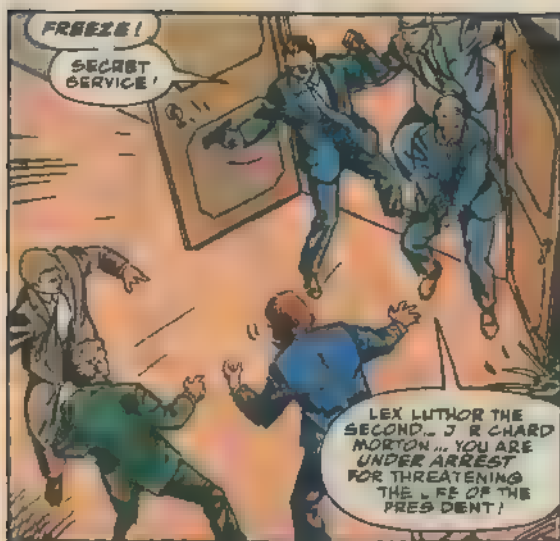
GIVE HIM A FEW MONTHS TO SCREW UP AND MAYBE THEN--!



I DON'T GIVE A DAMN HOW POPULAR HE IS! I WILL SEE HIM DEAD IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!

DEAD? YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT!

OF COURSE HE DOES!



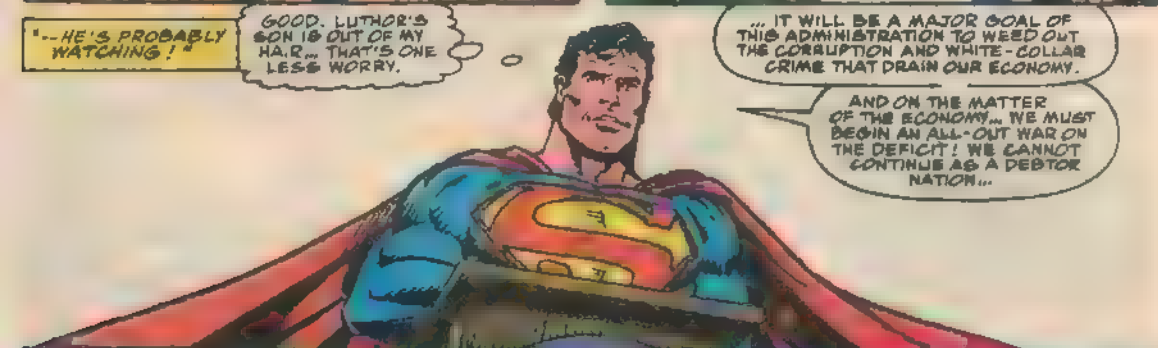
"--HE'S PROBABLY WATCHING!"

GOOD. LUTHOR'S SON IS OUT OF MY H.A.R., THAT'S ONE LESS WORRY.

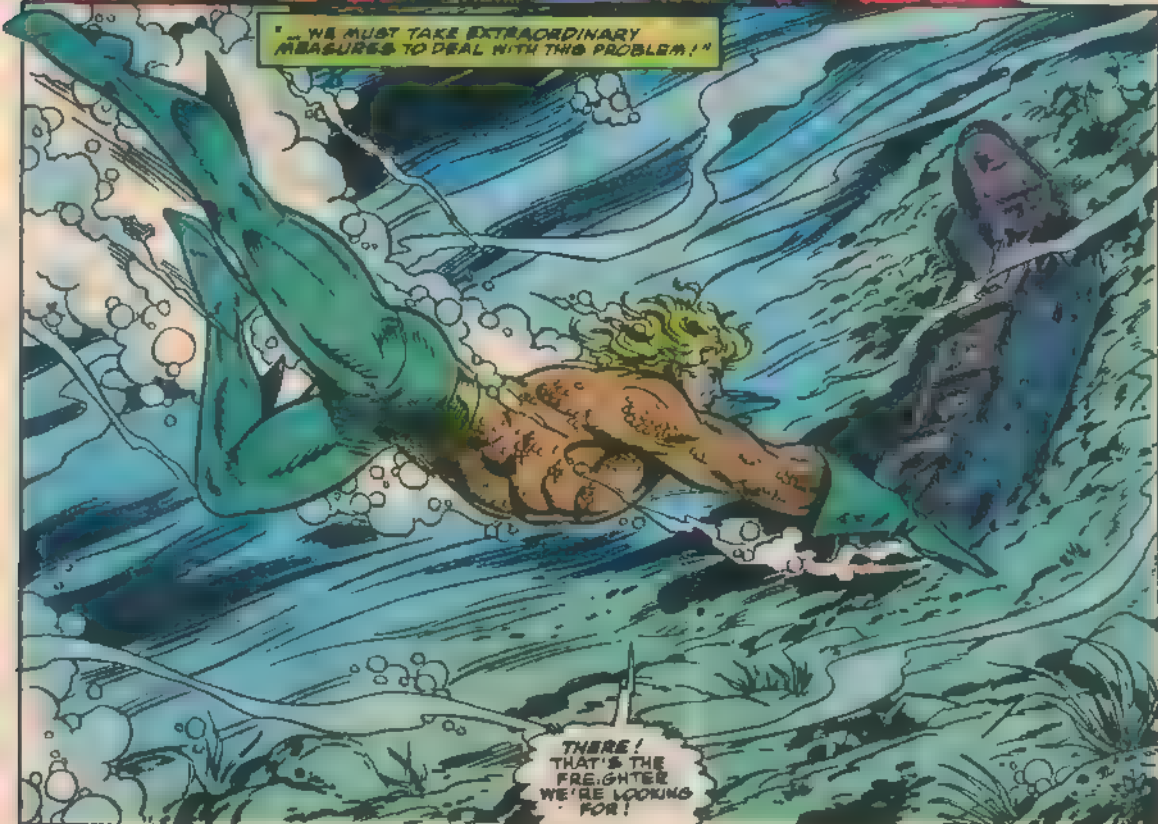


... IT WILL BE A MAJOR GOAL OF THIS ADMINISTRATION TO WEED OUT THE CORRUPTION AND WHITE-COLLAR CRIME THAT DRAIN OUR ECONOMY.

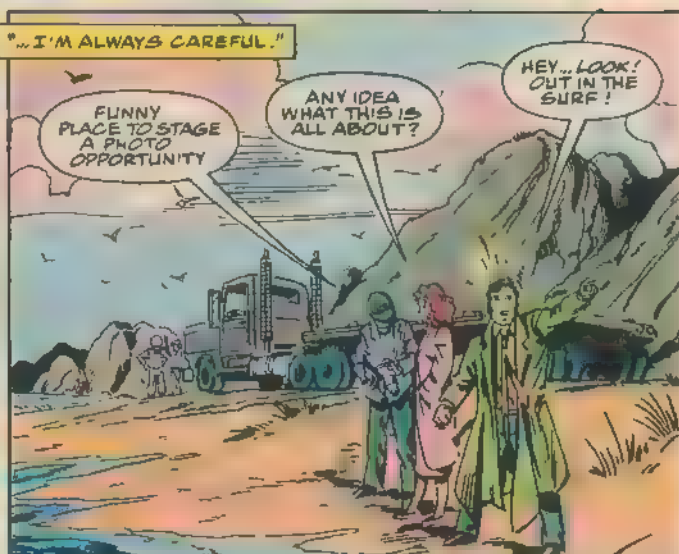
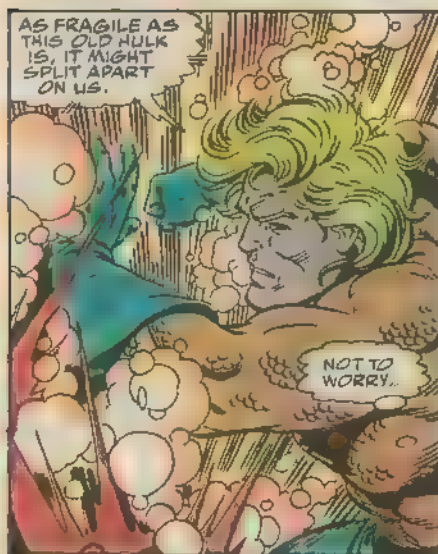
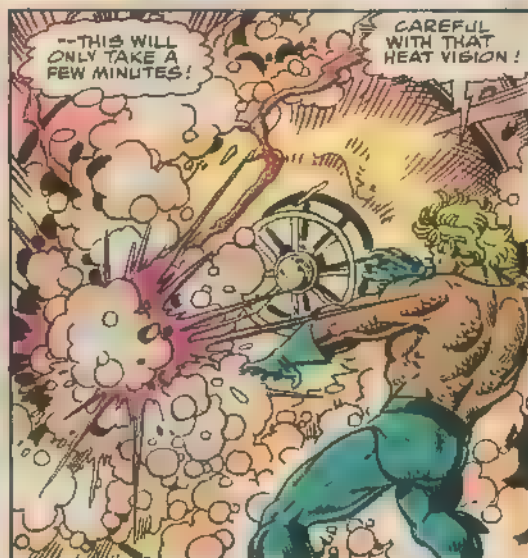
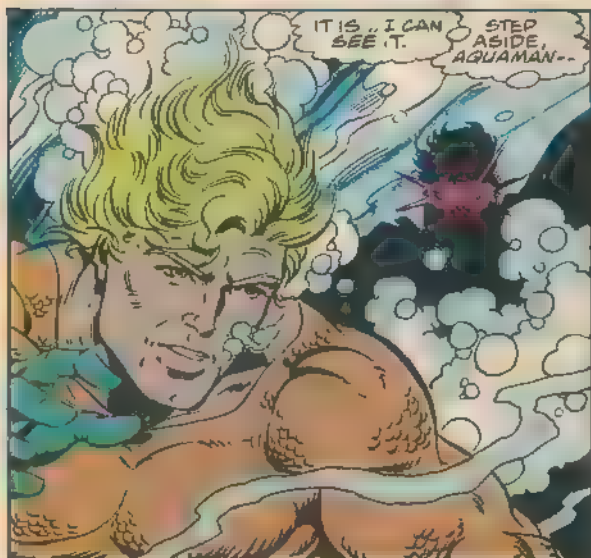
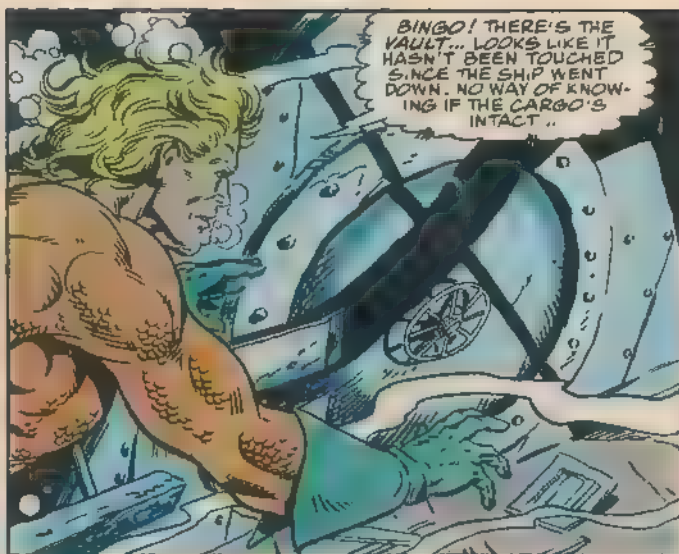
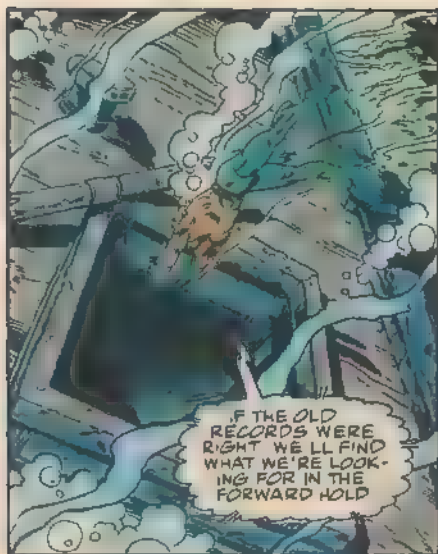
AND ON THE MATTER OF THE ECONOMY... WE MUST BEGIN AN ALL-OUT WAR ON THE DEFICIT! WE CANNOT CONTINUE AS A DEBTOR NATION...



"... WE MUST TAKE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM!"



**THERE!
THAT'S THE
FREIGHTER
WE'RE LOOKING
FOR!**

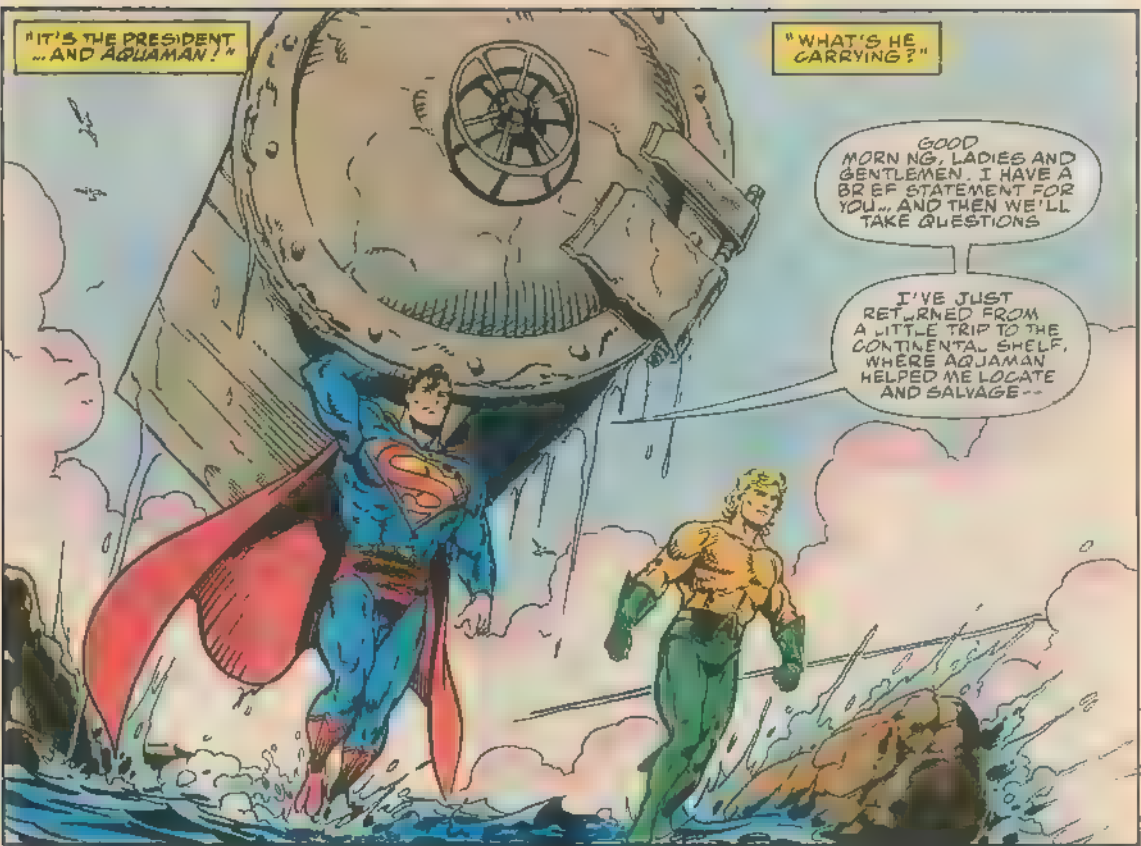


"IT'S THE PRESIDENT... AND AQUAMAN!"

"WHAT'S HE CARRYING?"

GOOD MORN'G, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I HAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT FOR YOU... AND THEN WE'LL TAKE QUESTIONS

I'VE JUST RETURNED FROM A LITTLE TRIP TO THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, WHERE AQUAMAN HELPED ME LOCATE AND SALVAGE--



--THIS GOLD SHIPMENT, WHICH HAD BEEN LOST FOR DECADES. IT WILL, OF COURSE, GO DIRECTLY INTO OUR RESERVES.

THIS IS JUST THE FIRST OF MANY SUCH PROJECTS

HOLY--! AT CURRENT PRICES, THAT'S WORTH MILLIONS!



WE WILL, OF COURSE, BE MAKING SUCH DEPOSITS GRADUALLY SO AS NOT TO UNDULY AFFECT WORLD MARKETS.

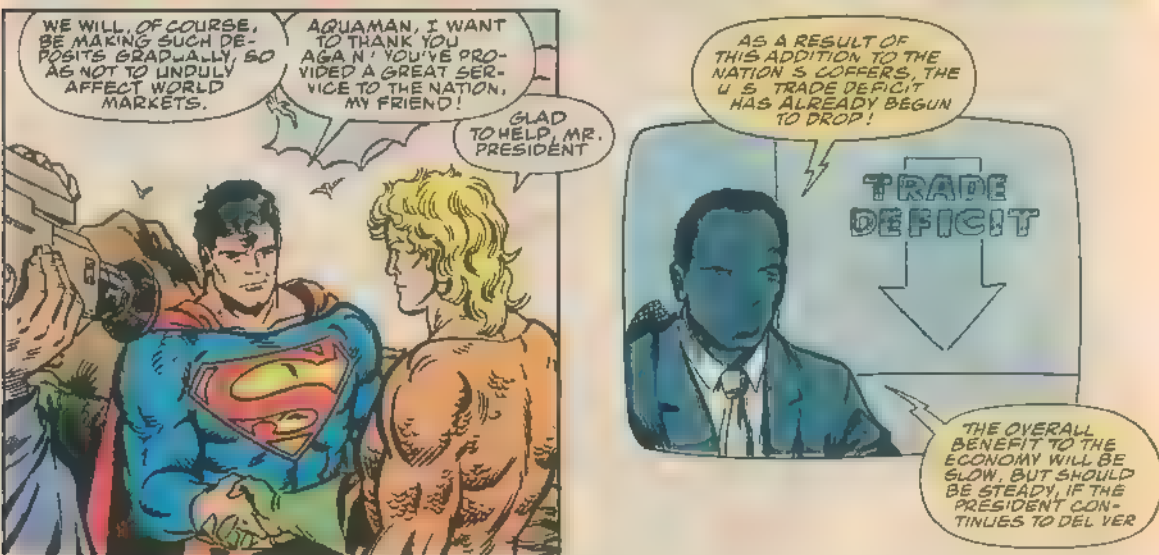
AQUAMAN, I WANT TO THANK YOU AGAIN. YOU'VE PROVIDED A GREAT SERVICE TO THE NATION, MY FRIEND!

GLAD TO HELP, MR. PRESIDENT

AS A RESULT OF THIS ADDITION TO THE NATION'S COFFERS, THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO DROP!

TRADE DEFICIT

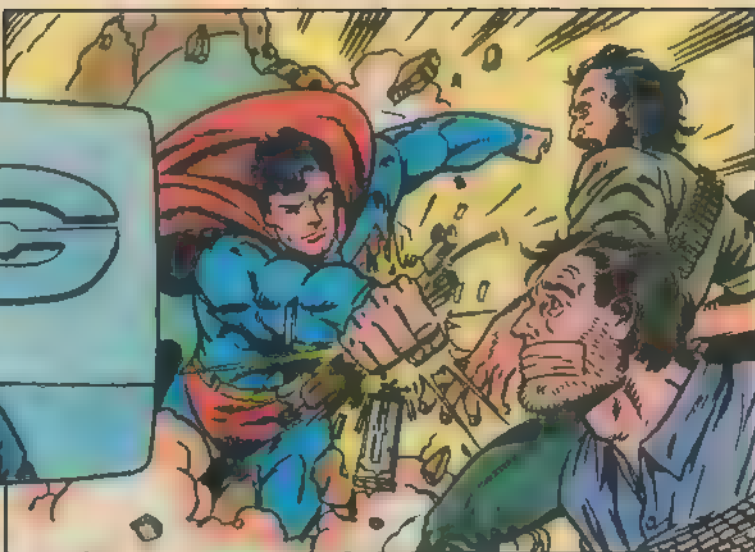
THE OVERALL BENEFIT TO THE ECONOMY WILL BE SLOW, BUT SHOULD BE STEADY, IF THE PRESIDENT CONTINUES TO DELIVER



... IN A DECISIVE MOVE TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM ABROAD, THE PRESIDENT TODAY PERSONALLY FREED DIPLOMAT CHARLES LUTTON FROM HIS CAPTORS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN ISLE OF SANDIA



G



THE PRESIDENT'S NEW CIVILIAN ECOLOGY CORPS ACHIEVED ITS FIRST GOAL THIS WEEK, AS THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN BEGAN A MASSIVE REFORESTATION PROJECT



NBS

VICE-PRESIDENT HEMMING'S WAS ON HAND TO PERSONALLY PLANT THE FIRST TREE. THE C.E.C. WILL PLANT OVER A MILLION NEW TREES BY YEAR'S END.



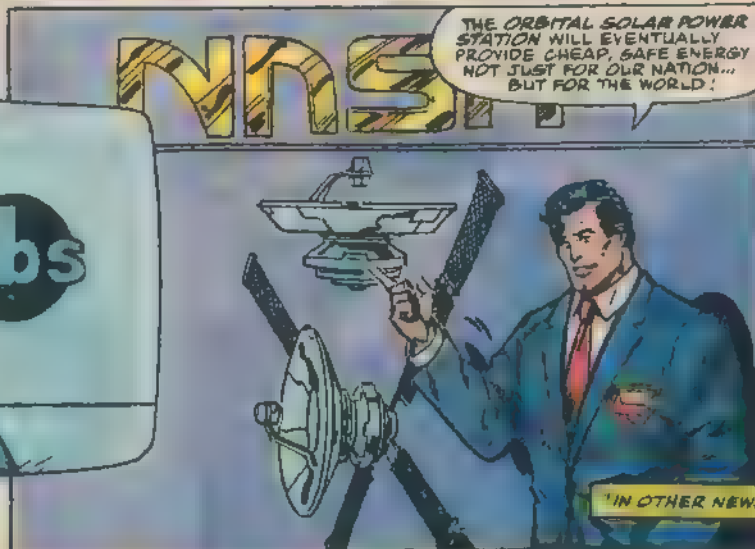
ON THE HEELS OF THE FIRST MAJOR ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM IN TWO DECADES, THE PRESIDENT TODAY UNVEILED PLANS FOR THE SECOND PHASE OF HIS ENERGY POLICY...



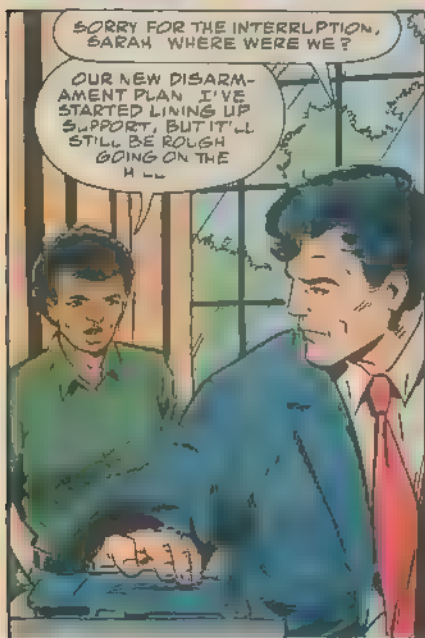
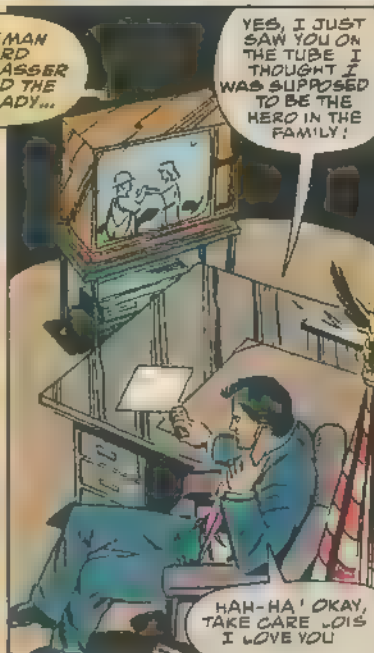
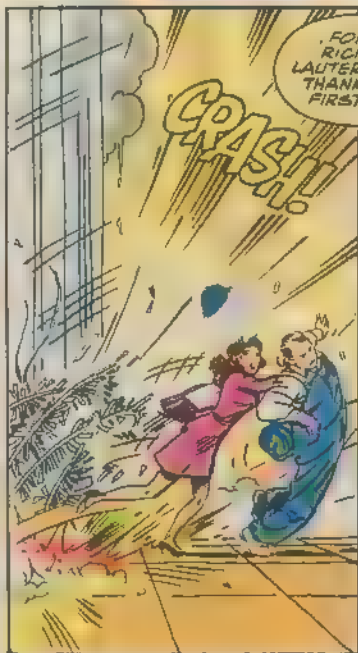
abs

NNNN

THE ORBITAL SOLAR POWER STATION WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE CHEAP, SAFE ENERGY NOT JUST FOR OUR NATION... BUT FOR THE WORLD!



IN OTHER NEWS...



... WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THE PRESIDENT IS ALSO THE MOST PHYSICALLY POWERFUL MAN ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH ?



SUPERMAN WAS, OF COURSE, ALREADY RESPECTED AROUND THE GLOBE... SUCH RESPECT CAN ONLY ADD TO HIS PRESTIGE AS A WORLD LEADER



BUT THAT RESPECT IS PERHAPS ACCOMPANIED BY NO SMALL BIT OF FEAR

... A FEAR OF ATTEMPTING TO BARGAIN WITH A MAN WHO CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF MIGHTY RIVERS!



... A FEAR OF DEALING WITH A MAN WHO CAN SUDDENLY APPEAR ON ONE'S DOORSTEP... AND WHO CAN QUOTE SCRIPTURE IN ONE'S OWN TONGUE!

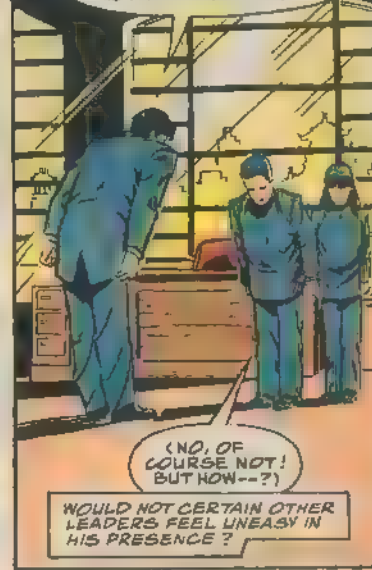
R... FOR IS IT NOT WRITTEN, "GOD CHANGES NOT WHAT IS IN A PEOPLE, UNTIL THEY CHANGE WHAT IS IN THEMSELVES"?



(YES... IT IS, INDEED)

... AND THE HAUNTING REALIZATION THAT THE TRUTH CANNOT EASILY BE HIDDEN FROM A MAN WHO CAN SEE THROUGH WALLS!

(DESPITE YOUR PROMISES, YOU CONTINUE TO OCCUPY A NATION THAT CANNOT POSSIBLY BE A DANGER TO YOU... UNLESS YOU FEAR IDEAS.)



(NO, OF COURSE NOT! BUT NOW--?)

WOULD NOT CERTAIN OTHER LEADERS FEEL UNEASY IN HIS PRESENCE ?

AND WHAT OF SUPERMAN HIMSELF ? WOULD NOT SUCH A MAN OF ACTION BECOME FRUSTRATED AT THE RELUCTANCE OF OTHERS TO CHANGE THEIR WAYS ?

(WHAT YOU SUGGEST COULD LEAD TO UTTER CHAOS !)

(TRUST ME... I HAVE A PLAN TO MAINTAIN ORDER !)



COULD NOT SUCH A MAN, IN SUCH A POSITION, BEGIN TO CRAVE EVEN MORE POWER TO ACHIEVE HIS GOALS ?

COULD NOT SUCH
A MAN BECOME
THE MONARCH?

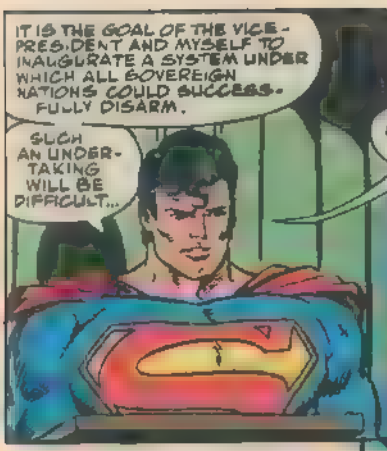
FIRST, I
WANT TO THANK
ALL OF YOU FOR
ANSWERING MY
SUMMONS.

SOME OF YOU ARE
OLD ALLIES, SOME STRANGERS
SOME POSSESS POWERS
FAR BEYOND THOSE OF ORDINARY
MORTALS. WHILE OTHERS OF YOU
HAVE HONEED YOUR HUMAN
ABILITIES TO A STATE OF
NEAR - PERFECTION...

...BUT WE
ALL HAVE
FOUGHT FOR THE
CAUSE OF JUSTICE!
WE ALL HAVE BEEN
CALLED HEROES!

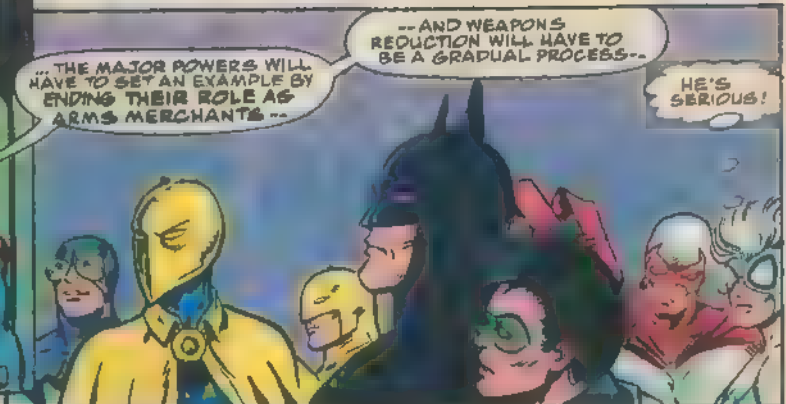
I'VE CALLED YOU
HERE TODAY TO BRIEF
YOU ON A PLAN THAT,
I BELIEVE, WILL
INSURE WORLD
PEACE.

I HOPE I CAN
CONVINCE YOU ALL
TO BE A PART OF
THAT PLAN!



IT IS THE GOAL OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND MYSELF TO INAUGURATE A SYSTEM UNDER WHICH ALL SOVEREIGN NATIONS COULD SUCCESSFULLY DISARM.

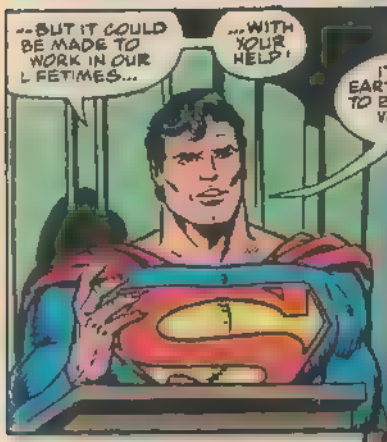
SUCH AN UNDERTAKING WILL BE DIFFICULT...



...THE MAJOR POWERS WILL HAVE TO SET AN EXAMPLE BY ENDING THEIR ROLE AS ARMS MERCHANTS--

--AND WEAPONS REDUCTION WILL HAVE TO BE A GRADUAL PROCESS--

HE'S SERIOUS!



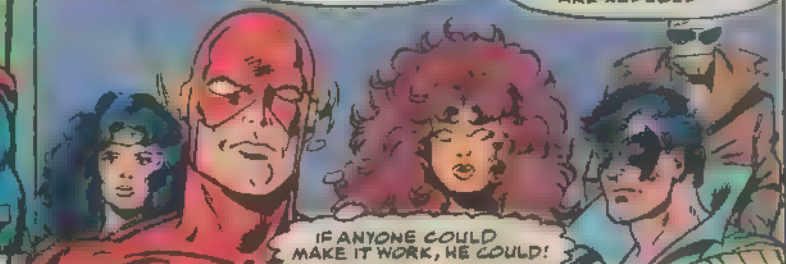
--BUT IT COULD BE MADE TO WORK IN OUR LIFETIMES...

...WITH YOUR HELP!

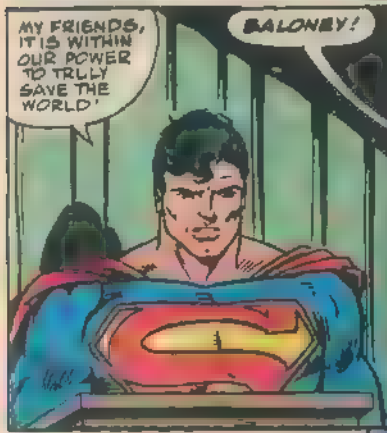
IT IS TIME FOR EARTH'S GREAT HEROES TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN WORLD AFFAIRS.

WHAT I PROPOSE IS A NEW ORGANIZATION --MERGING THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WITH OTHER GROUPS AND ENLISTING NON-AFFILIATED INDIVIDUALS--

--TO INSPECT AND VERIFY THE DISARMAMENT PROCESS... AND TO ACT AS A STABILIZING FORCE HELPING THE UNITED NATIONS TO KEEP THE PEACE AS THE WORLD'S ARMES ARE REDUCED

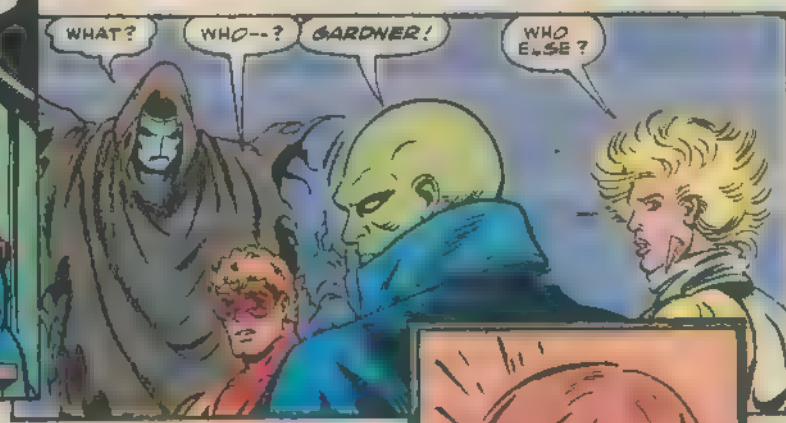


IF ANYONE COULD MAKE IT WORK, HE COULD!



MY FRIENDS, IT IS WITHIN OUR POWER TO TRULY SAVE THE WORLD!

BALONEY!

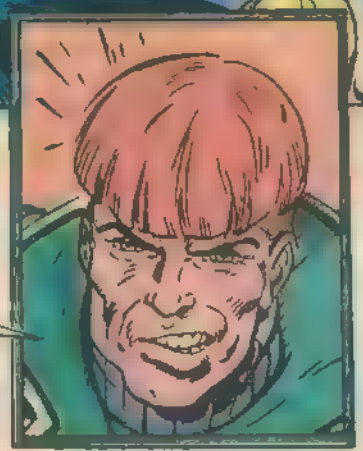


WHAT?

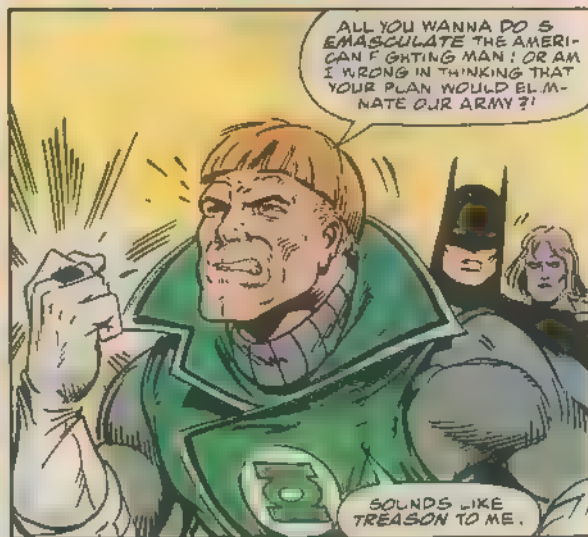
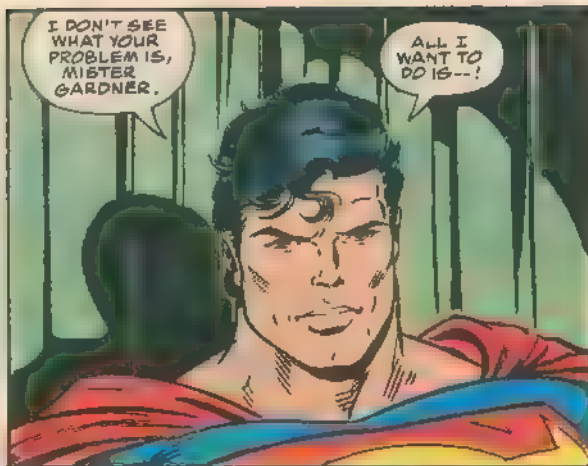
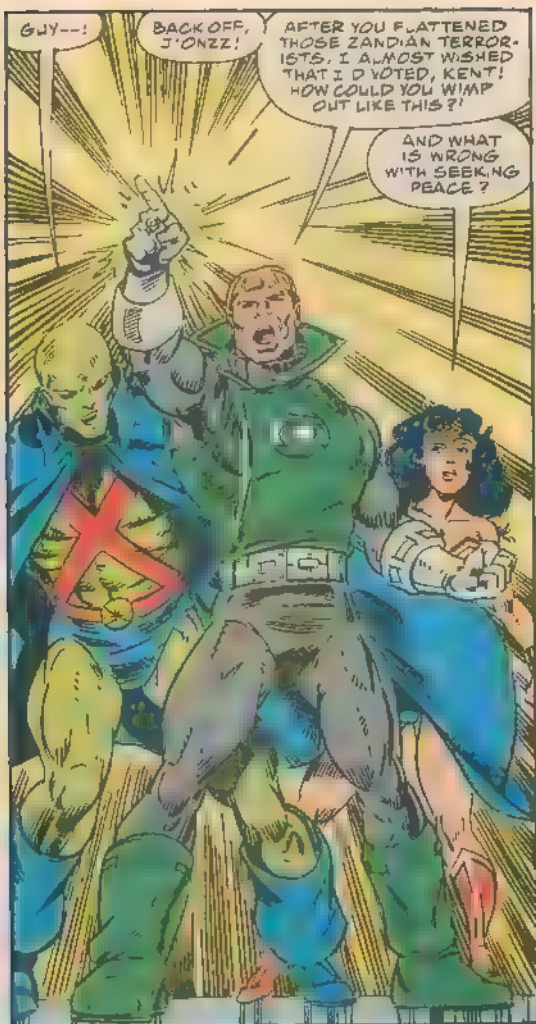
WHO--?

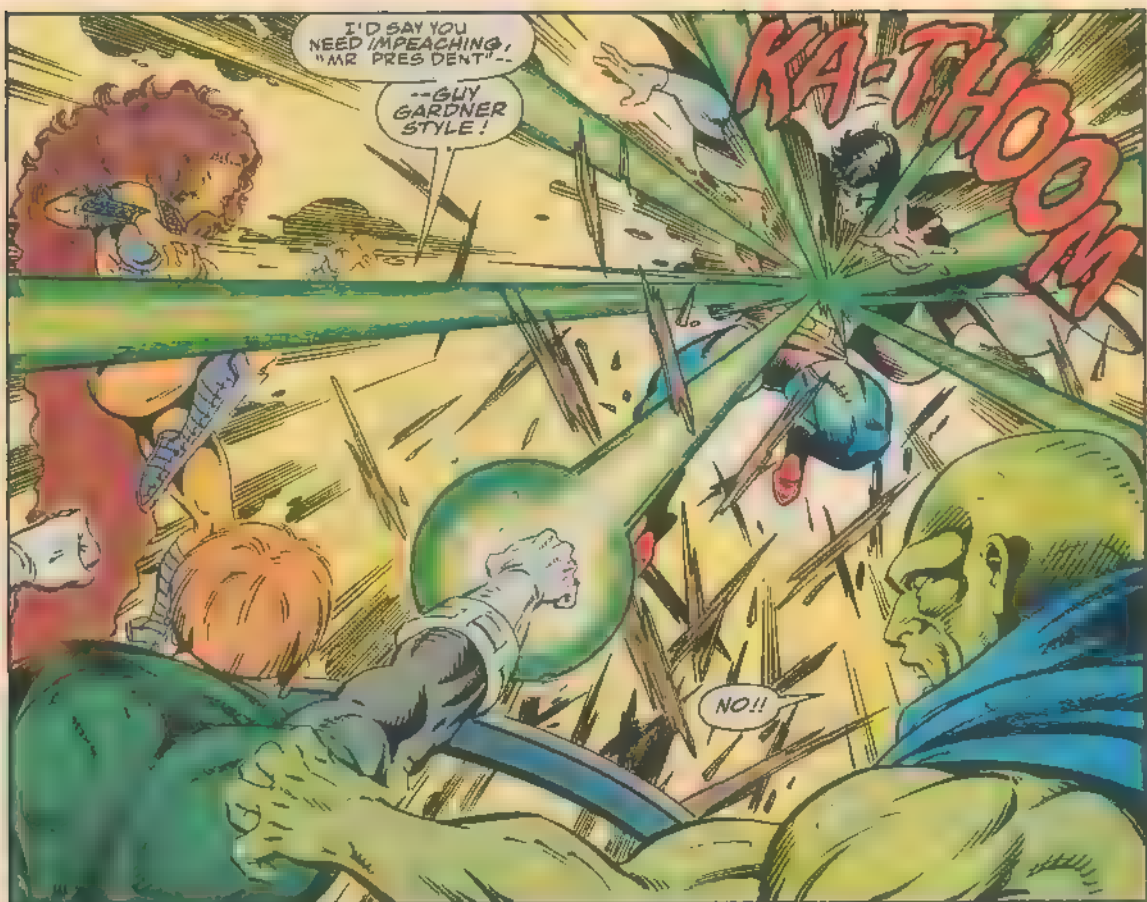
GARDNER!

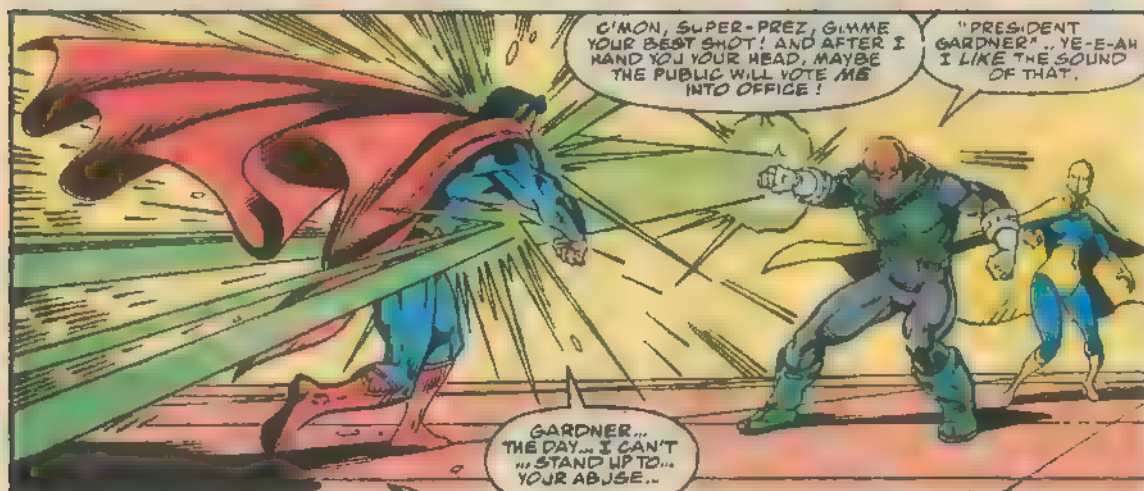
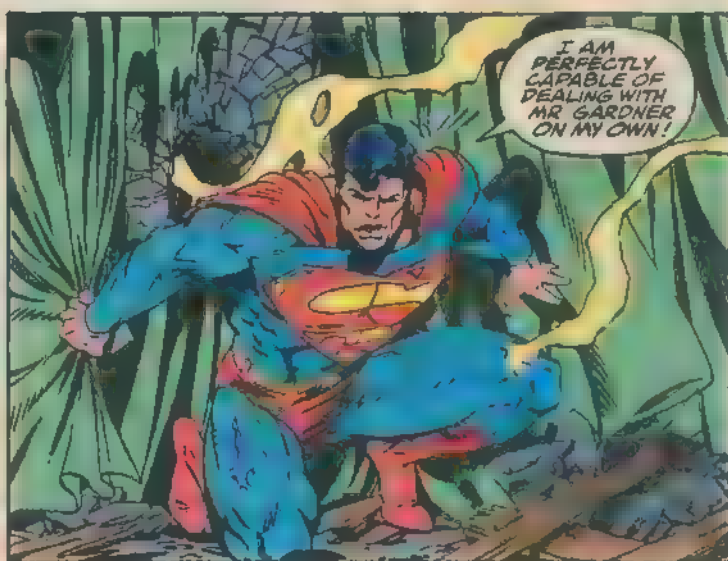
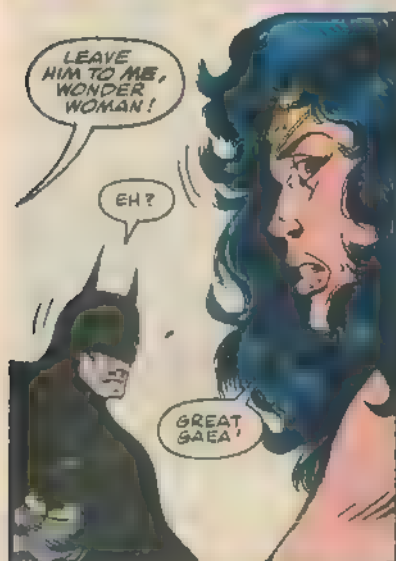
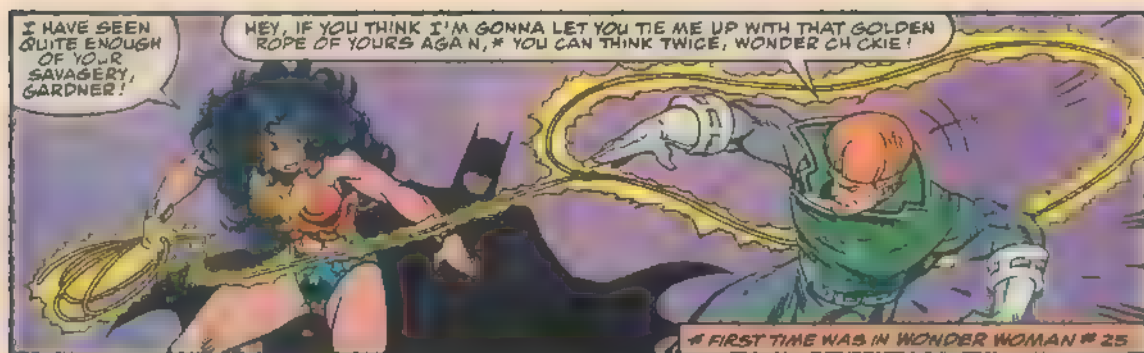
WHO ELSE?

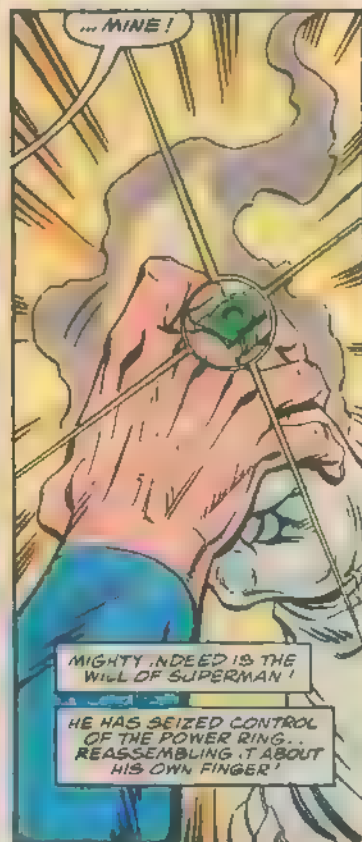
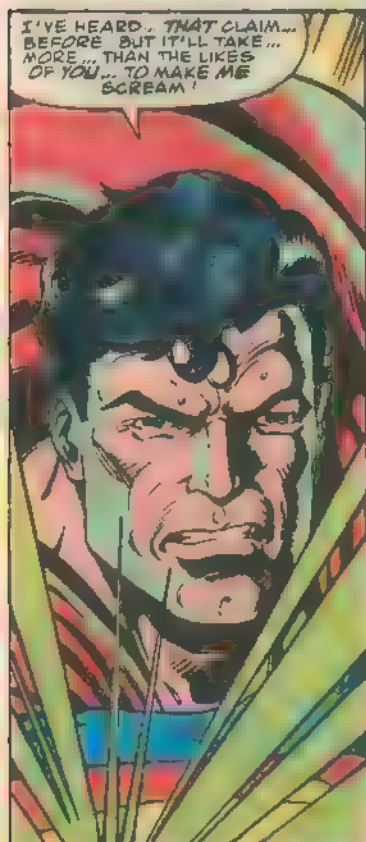
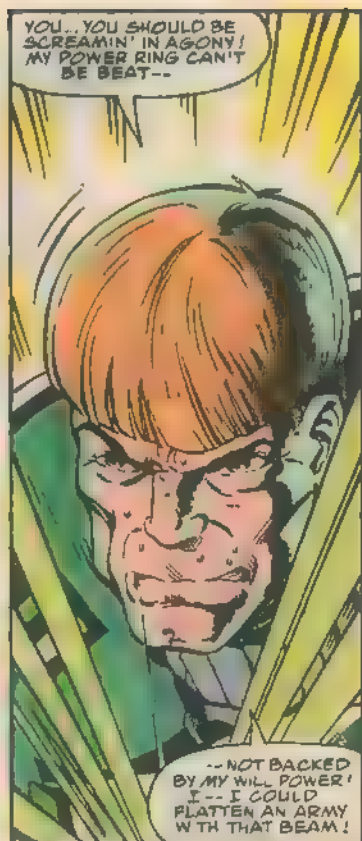
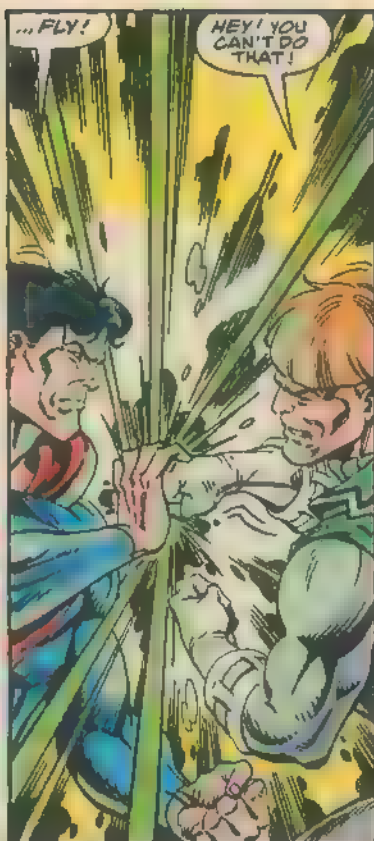


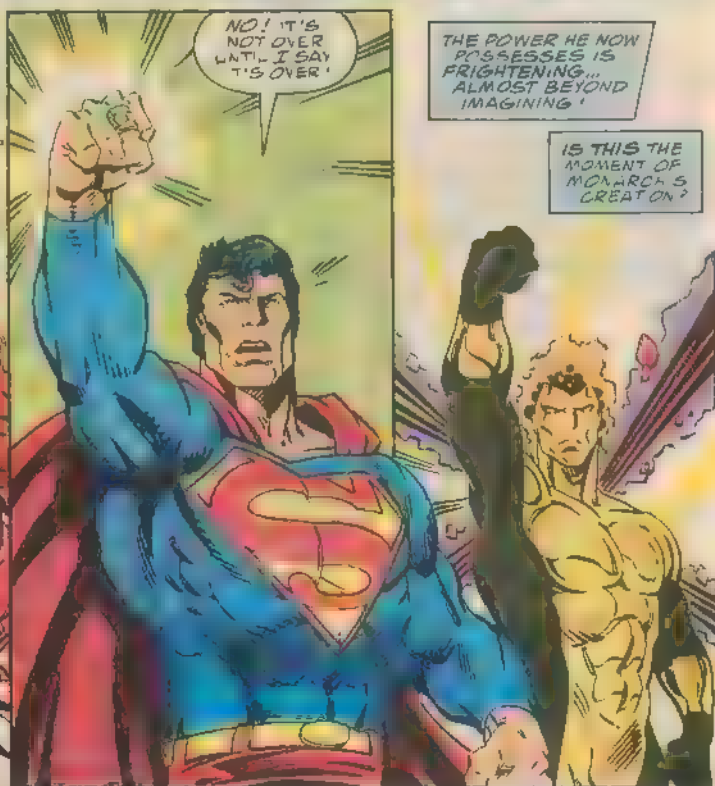
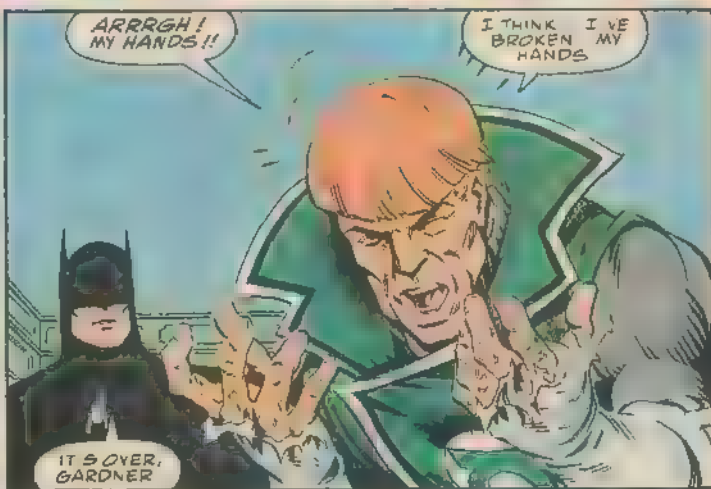
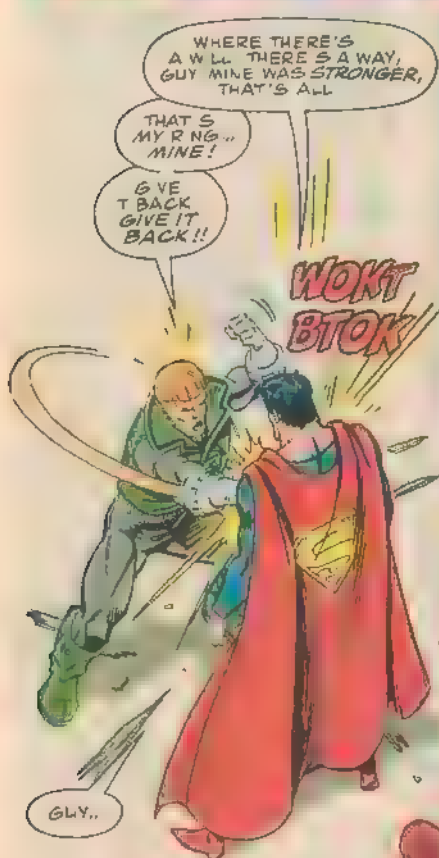
DON'T TELL ME THE REST OF YOU HAVE BOUGHT INTO BLUE-BOY'S SNOOW JOB?

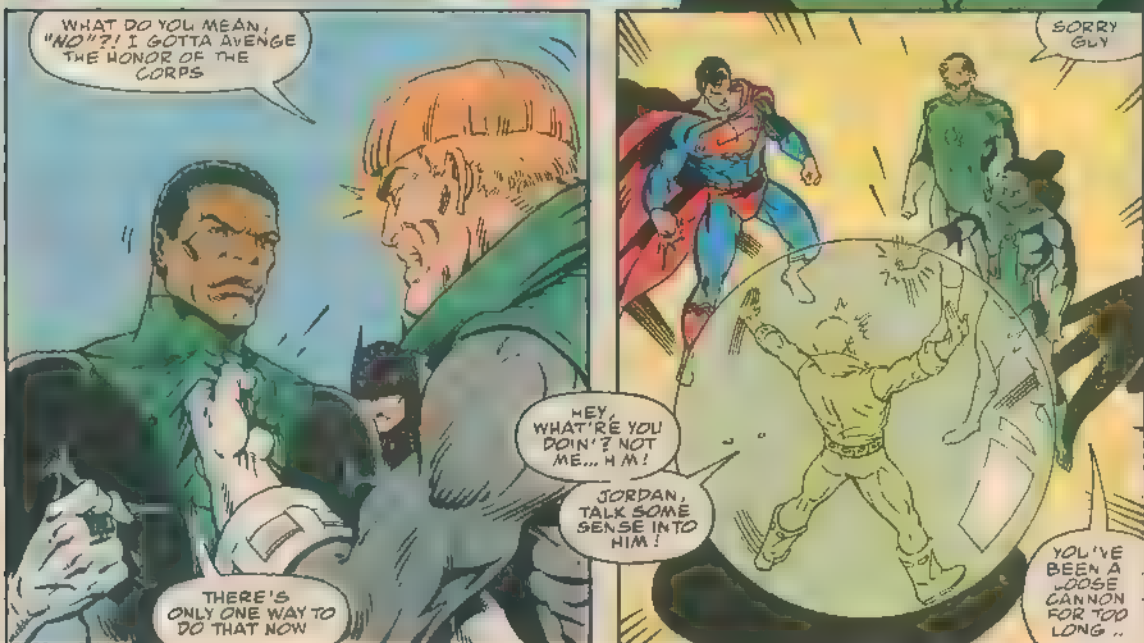
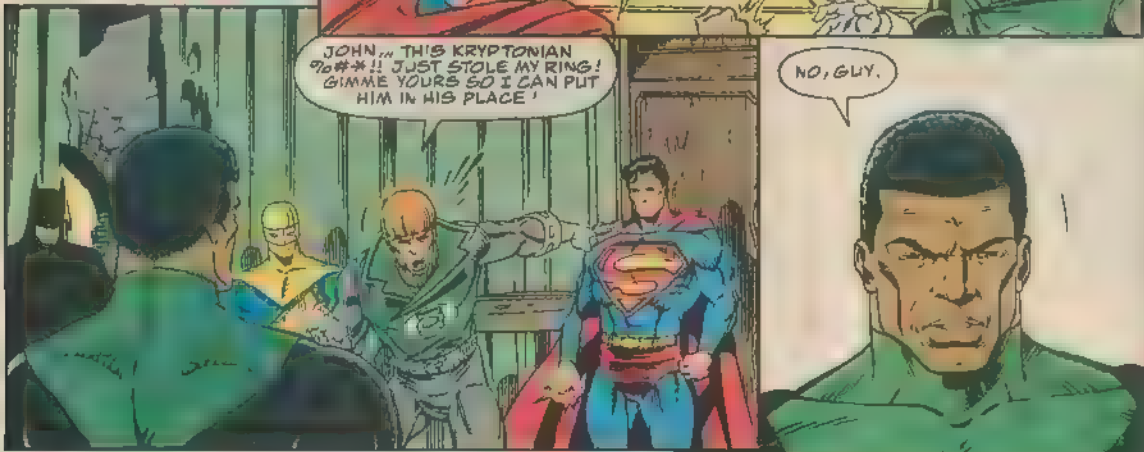
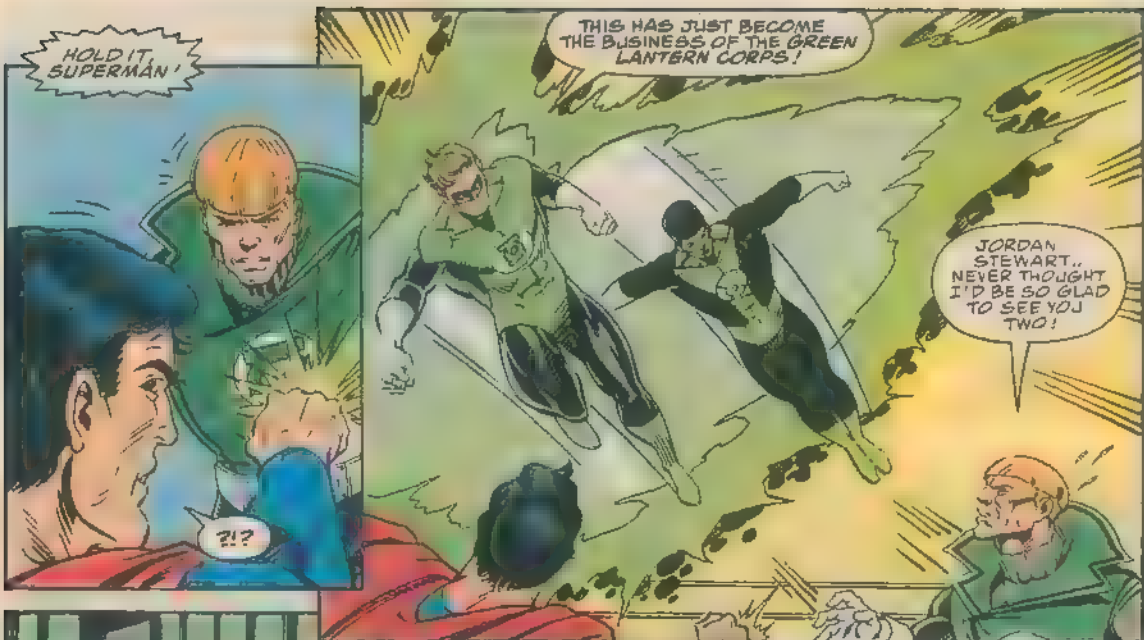


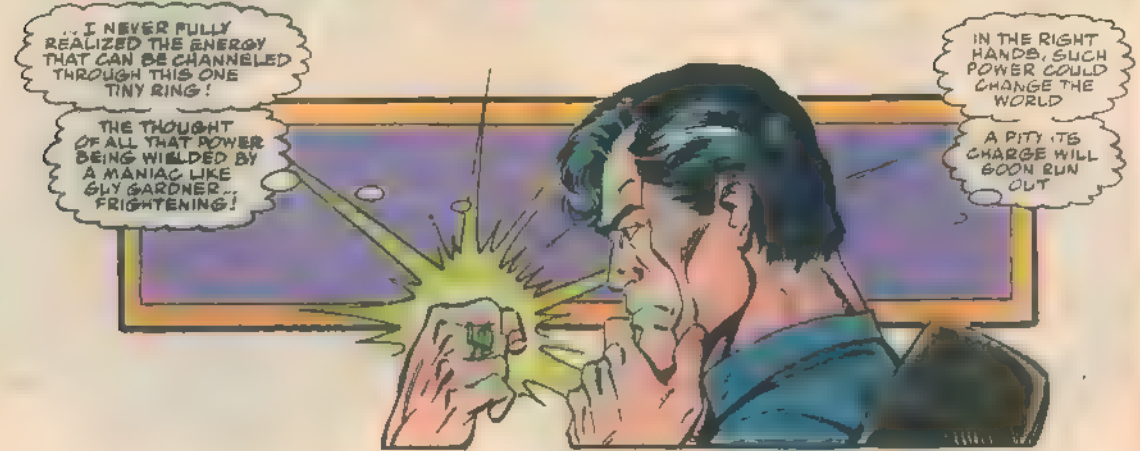
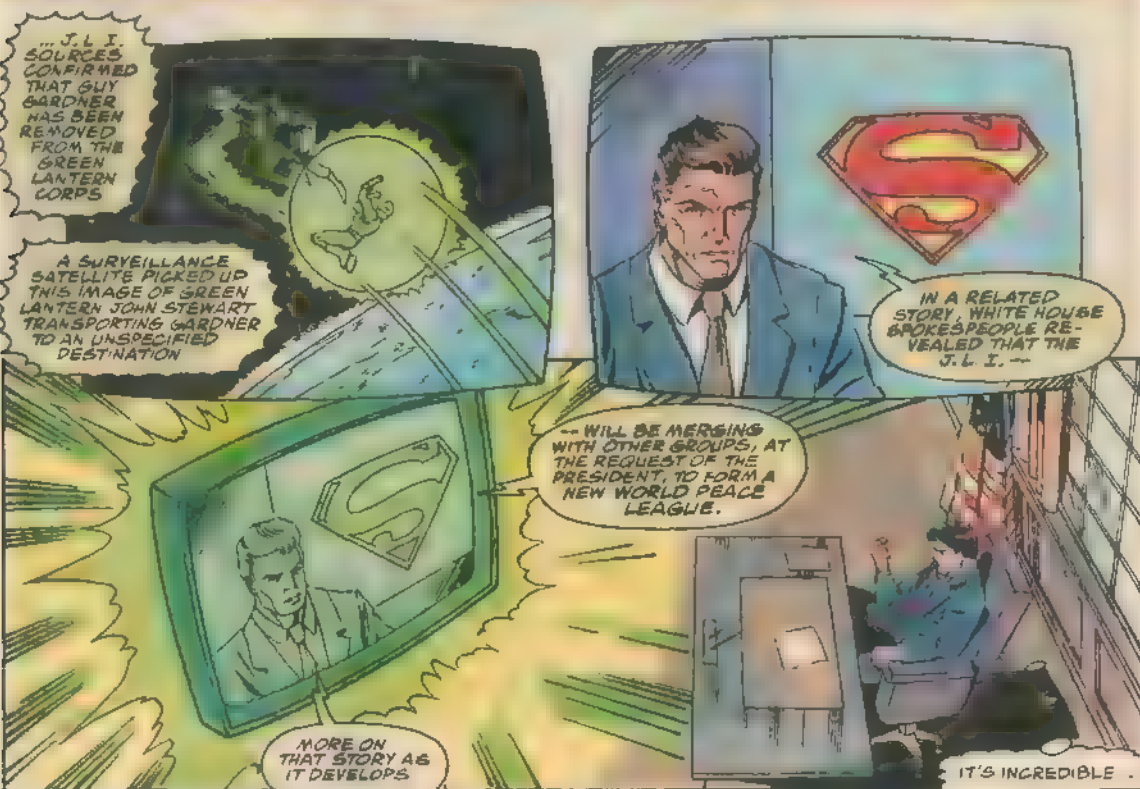
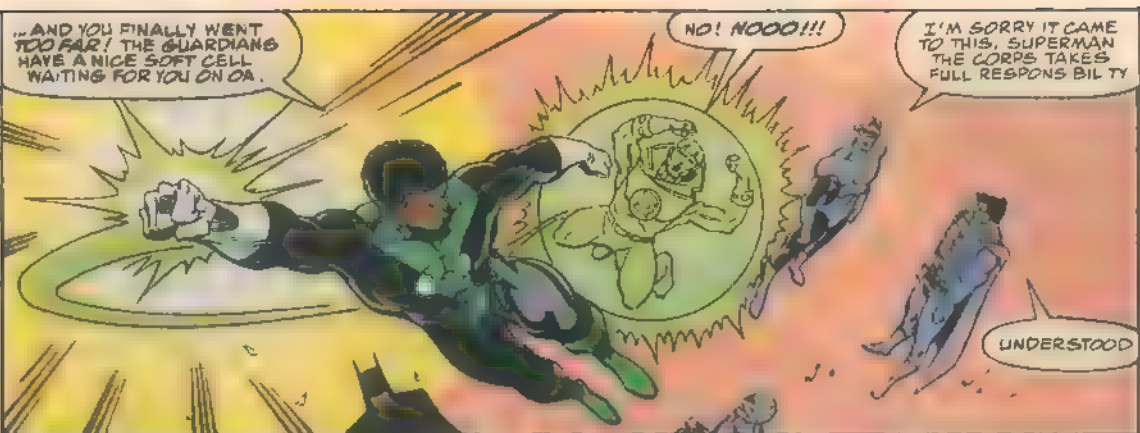












SIR, ON BEHALF OF THE GREEN LANTERN CORPS, I BRING YOU GREETINGS

IT IS THE JUDGMENT OF THE CORPS-- WITH THE CONSENT OF THE GUARDIANS OF OA-- THAT YOU BE GIVEN THIS POWER BATTERY.

MR. PRESIDENT--!

AH! HAL... I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU

IT WILL ENABLE YOU TO CHARGE YOUR RING YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THE RING MUST BE CHARGED EVERY 24 HOURS?

YES... I DO.

I...

HAL I'M HONORED I TRULY AM.

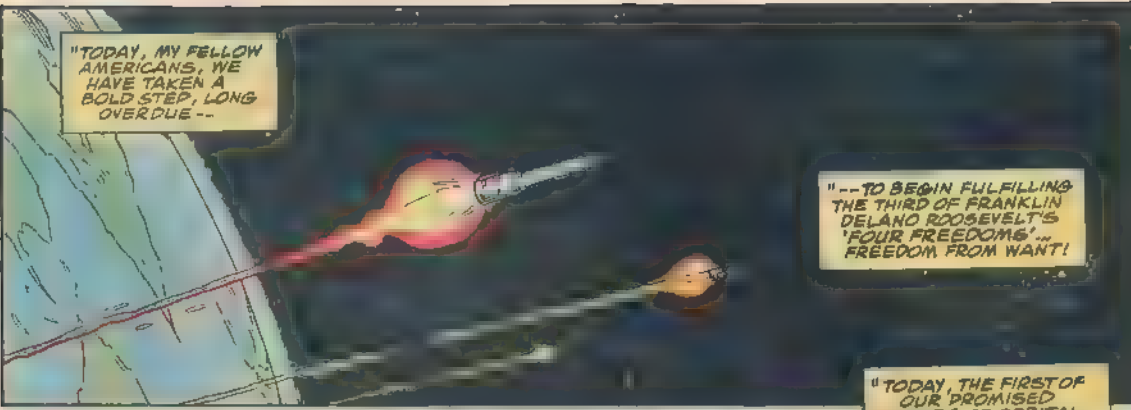
BUT I DON'T THINK THIS WAS MEANT FOR ME

IT'S TEMPTING... BUT I ALREADY HAVE SO MUCH POWER... ON SO MANY LEVELS

LORD ACTON ONCE WROTE, "POWER TENDS TO CORRUPT AND ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS ABSOLUTELY." I DON'T THINK I WANT THAT TEMPTATION.

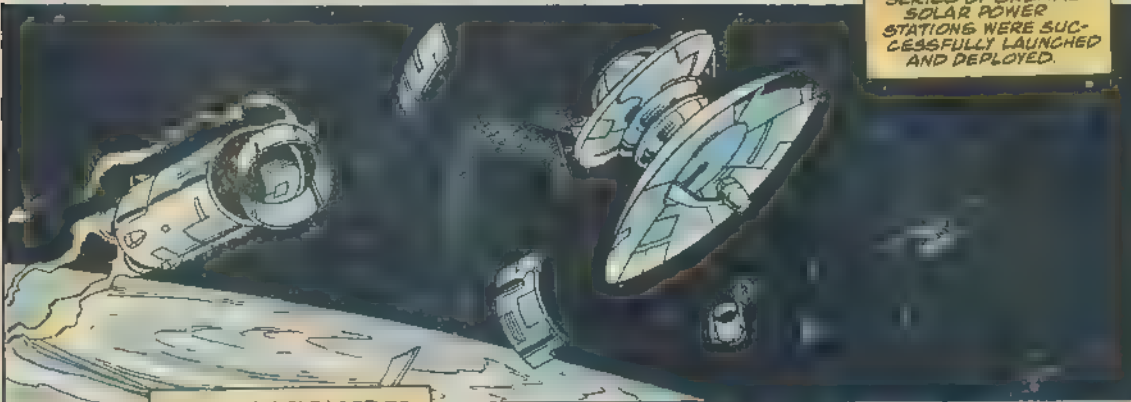
GIVE THIS TO SOMEONE WHO WILL PUT IT TO GOOD USE

I UNDERSTAND IT WILL BE DONE



"TODAY, MY FELLOW AMERICANS, WE HAVE TAKEN A BOLD STEP, LONG OVERDUE --

"--TO BEGIN FULFILLING THE THIRD OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT'S 'FOUR FREEDOMS'... FREEDOM FROM WANT!



"TODAY, THE FIRST OF OUR PROMISED SERIES OF ORBITAL SOLAR POWER STATIONS WERE SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED AND DEPLOYED.

"AND, I AM PLEASED TO REPORT, THEY HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO BEAM ENERGY TO EARTH-BASED RECEIVING STATIONS.



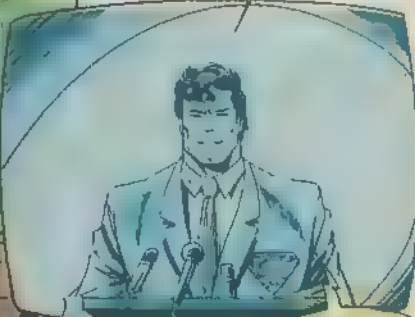
NOW WE CAN ACCELERATE THE REBUILDING OF AMERICA, DIVERTING PETRO-CHEMICALS INTO THE MANUFACTURE OF USEFUL, LONG-LIVED, RECYCLABLE PRODUCTS

...WHILE CLEANING THE AIR, WATER, AND EARTH OF THEIR POLLUTION

MOREOVER, THROUGH THE SHARING OF THIS TECHNOLOGY WE WILL ENABLE THE DEVELOPING NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO GROW AND PROSPER WITHOUT THE AWFUL SQUANDERING OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES



"THE REALIZATION OF THIS SOURCE OF SAFE ENERGY WILL FREE US ALL FROM THE ECONOMIC TYRANNY OF FOSSIL FUELS"



THIS IS THE DAWNING OF A NEW DAY FOR OUR PLANET.

...A DAY THAT,
THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT
AND SACRIFICE, YOU--
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE--
HAVE MADE POSSIBLE

ONE OF YOUR
BETTER SPEECHES,
CLARK!

I'LL SAY
IT WAS!

THANKS

WHAT'S
WRONG,
BABE? I
WOULD
THINK
YOU'D BE
HAPPY

OH I AM. I WAS
JUST THINKING OF
ALL THE WORK
STILL TO DO

DISARMAMENT
CONFERENCE
STARTS NEXT
MONTH AND
THEN THERE'S
NORTHERN
IRELAND..

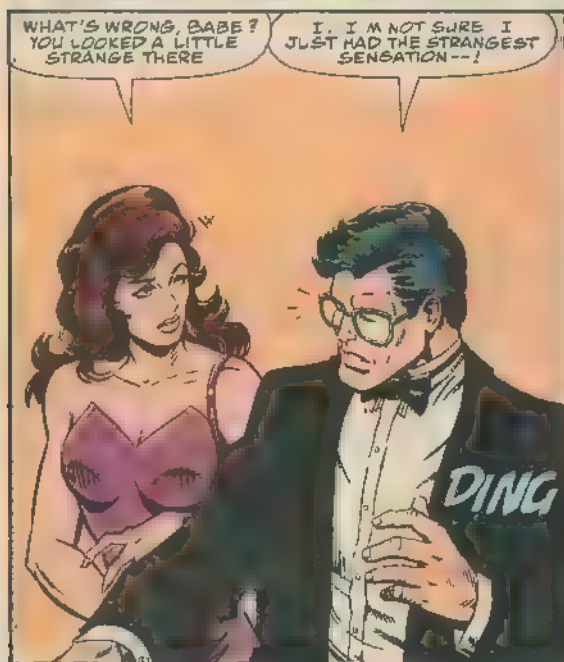
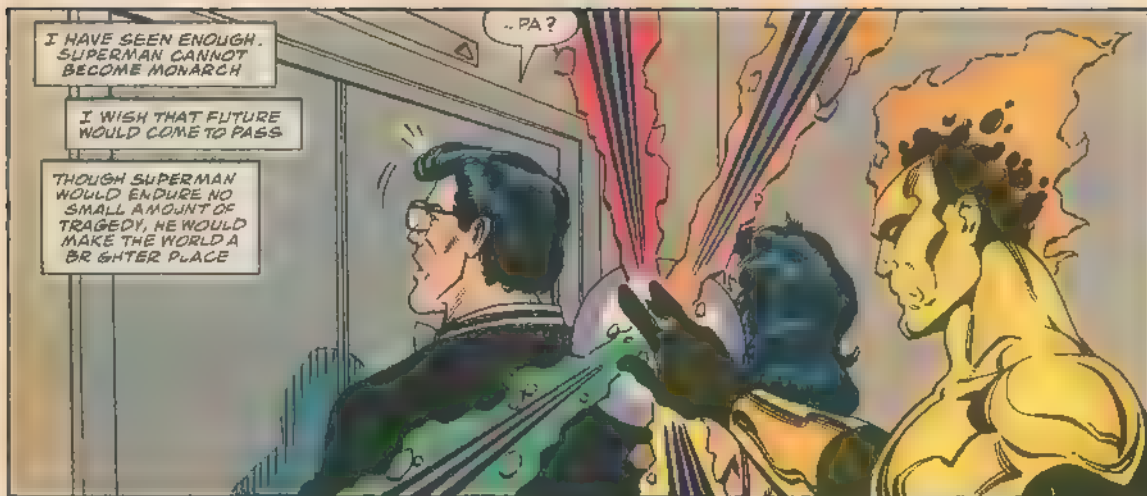
...I'VE DONE EVERY-
THING BUT PAINT MY-
SELF GREEN AND
CARRY A SHILLELAGH,
AND I STILL CAN'T
GET THEM TO WORK
FOR PEACE
THERE

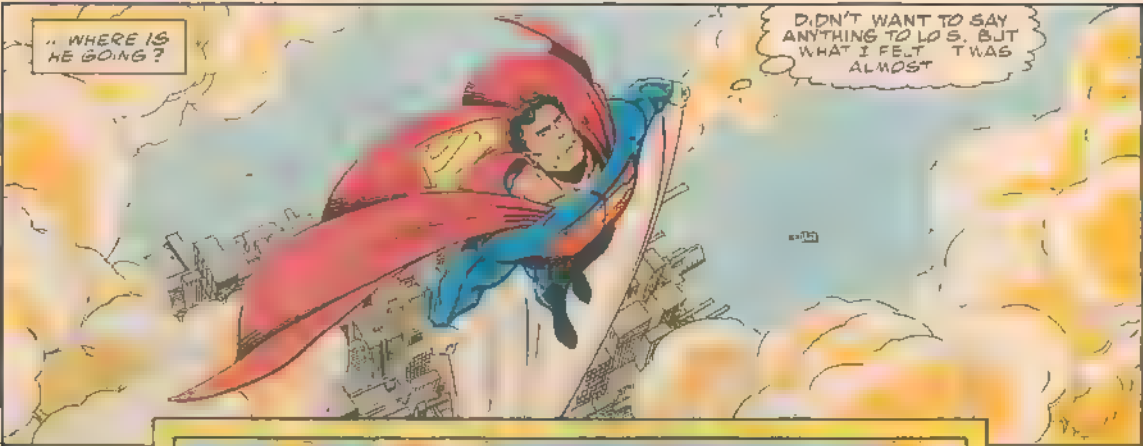
LAND SAKES, CHILD,
I KNOW IT'S NOT AN EASY
JOB, BUT LOOK AT ALL
YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED
ALREADY!

I WISH YOUR
FATHER HAD LIVED
TO SEE THIS. HE
WOULD BE SO
VERY PROUD!

I WON'T BE
PRESIDENT FOREVER
I HAVE TO GET THINGS
SET UP SO THAT MY
SUCCESSORS WILL
BE ABLE TO KEEP
THEM RUNNING

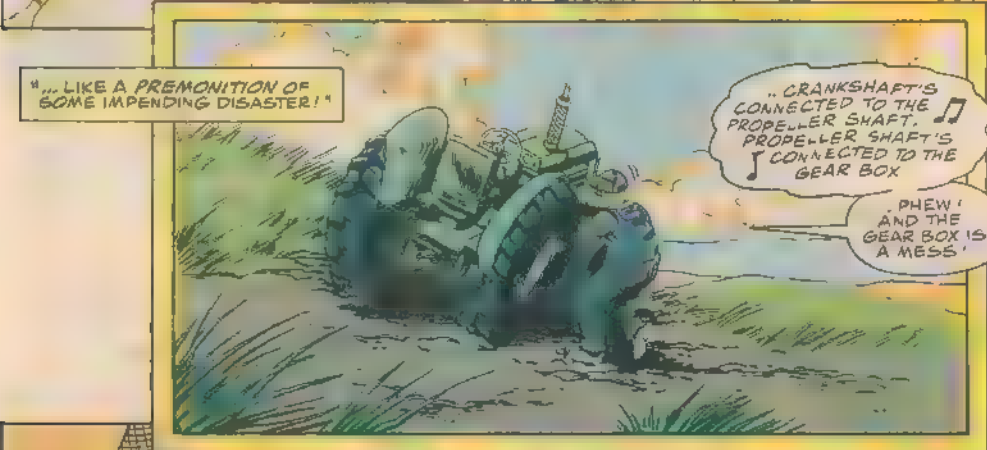
PA...





"WHERE IS HE GOING?"

DIDN'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING TO LOS, BUT WHAT I FELT T WAS ALMOST



"...LIKE A PREMONITION OF SOME IMPENDING DISASTER!"

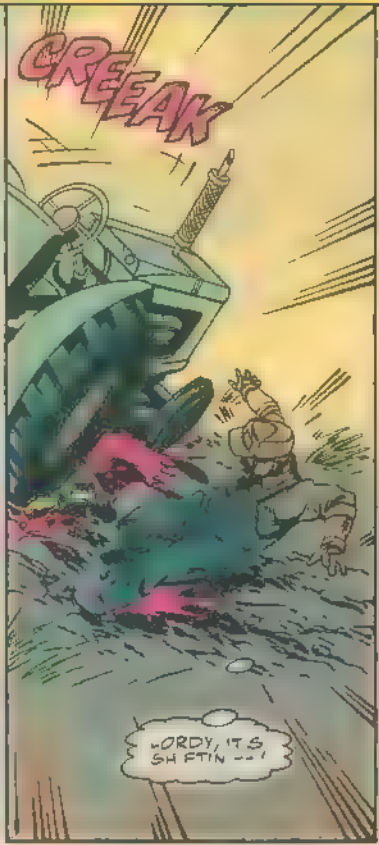
"CRANKSHAFT'S CONNECTED TO THE PROPELLER SHAFT. PROPELLER SHAFT'S CONNECTED TO THE GEAR BOX"

"PHEW! AND THE GEAR BOX IS A MESS!"



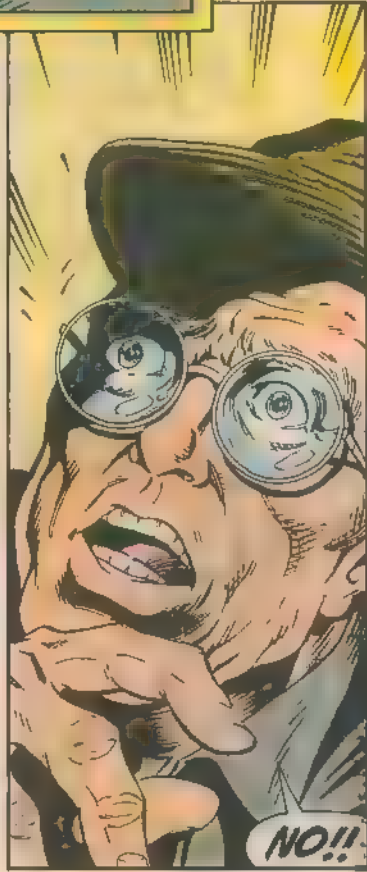
DURN THING! SHOULDA TRADED IT IN LONG AGO!

C'MON, YOU STUBBORN--!



CREAK

WORDY, IT'S SHFTIN --!



NO!!



PA? ARE
YOU OKAY?
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?!

I... I
RECKON I
AM, SON.

THANK GOD! IF I'D
BEEN EVEN A SECOND
LATER--!

LET'S SET THIS
DOWN ON LEVEL
GROUND AND TAKE
A BETTER LOOK
AT YOU!

AW, I'M OKAY...
ONLY THING
BRUISED IS MY
DIGNITY.

OF ALL THE DANG-
FOOL STUNTS I BEEN
FARMING NEARLY 40 YEARS
... OUGHT TO HAVE KNOWN
BETTER THAN TO TRY AND
FIX A TRACTOR ON A
HILL!

THAT WAS
A CLOSE ONE,
ALL RIGHT...



YES, A
VERY GOOD
THING...

...A
WONDERFUL
THING!



... AGAIN, SUPERMAN RETAINED A FLEETING MEMORY FROM OUR FLASH FORWARD!

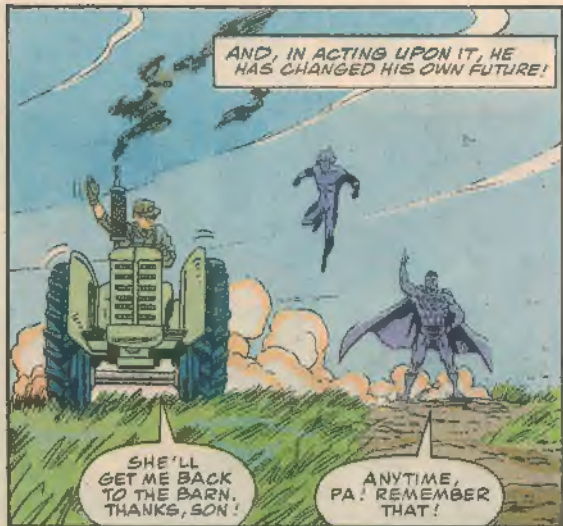
OKAY, SEE IF SHE'LL START.



AND, IN ACTING UPON IT, HE HAS CHANGED HIS OWN FUTURE!

SHE'LL GET ME BACK TO THE BARN. THANKS, SON!

ANYTIME, PA! REMEMBER THAT!



TRULY, SUPERMAN'S POWERS RIVAL MY OWN.

BUT GREATER EVEN THAN HIS AMAZING POWERS ARE HIS STRENGTH OF CHARACTER... HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE... AND HIS WILL TO PREVAIL.

JUST AS HE RETAINED SOMETHING FROM OUR MERGER, SO HAVE I!

I AM -- I FEEL -- EVER MORE CONFIDENT NOW THAT I SHALL FIND THE MONARCH. AND THAT... WHEN I DO...



... THE POWER OF SUPERMAN WILL BE ON MY SIDE!

End

EXECUTIVE ACTION



ROGER STERN WRITER	* TOM GRUMMETT PENCILER	RODIER/HAZELWOOD * BARZON/VANCATA INKERS
BILL OAKLEY LETTERER	* WHITMORE! COLORISTS	* DAN THORSLAND ASSISTANT
		* MIKE CARLIN EDITOR